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424

CORRESPONDENCE

RESPECTING

TURKISH PROCEEDINGS

IN THE

NEIGHBOURHOOD OF ADEN.

1872-73.

32

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TABLE OF CONTENTS.

No.	No.	Date.	Subject.	Page
1. India Office	..	May 16, 1872	Turkish force landed at Hodeida for purpose of advancing to Sana. Intrigues by Turkish Agents to induce Chiefs in the neighbourhood of Aden to hoist the Turkish flag ..	1
2. To India Office ..	..	22,	For more specific information as to the arrangements with the Arab Chiefs, which would justify remonstrance to the Porte.. ..	2
3. India Office	..	28,	Government of India have been requested to supply the information desired	3
4. „ „	..	Aug. 13,	Progress of the Turkish expedition against the Yemen. Capture of Sana. Overtures of Turkish authorities to the Chiefs round Aden. Application to the Resident at Aden by the Sultan of Lahej. Government of India await further information before advising representation to the Porte ..	3
4A. „ „	..	Sept. 12,	Despatch from Resident at Aden. Believes that the overtures to the Chiefs round Aden are made not by Turkish Agents but by unauthorized persons	11
4B. „ „	..	Oct. 29,	Application by Sultan of Lahej to Resident at Aden for advice as to conduct to Turkish Authorities. Howshebee Chief favourably disposed towards the latter	12
5. Lord Lyons	25	Nov. 25,	Letter from Sir B. Frere as to language of Turkish Ambassador at Paris to Mr. Badger in speaking of Turkish successes in Yemen .	14
6. India Office	..	26,	Despatch from Resident at Aden relative to letter written by Turkish Governor of Yemen to Sultan of Lahej, inviting him to submit to the Porte, and calling attention to inconvenience which will result if tribes round Aden become subject to Turkey	15
7. Sir B. Frere	..	Dec. 24,	Memorandum by Mr. Badger of conversation with M. de Rémusat and Turkish Ambassador at Paris on Turkish conquests in Arabia. Groundlessness of Turkish claims and inconvenience of Turkish Protectorate in neighbourhood of Aden	17
8. India Office	Confidential	Jan. 6, 1873	Telegrams from Sir B. Frere and Resident at Aden as to apprehended Turkish movement against Lahej. For representation to the Porte	
9. „ „	..	8,	Telegram from Viceroy of India. Resident at Aden instructed to protest against proceedings of Turkish Pasha. Hope representations to Porte have been successful ..	19
10. To Sir H. Elliot ..	Telegraphic	11,	To ask Porte to send instructions to suspend any hostile proceedings against Arab tribes near Aden	20
11. Sir H. Elliot . ..	Telegraphic	13,	No operation will be undertaken against Lahej without communication with Her Majesty's Government. It is considered as part of Yemen, and Turkish Governor wishes to punish aggression by its Chief against neighbouring State	21
12. „ „	..	6,	Turkish Government disclaim intention of claiming seaboard of Arabia beyond the Red Sea	22
13. Lord Lyons	Private	19,	Forwarding letter below from Sir B. Frere ..	22
14. Sir B. Frere.. ..	Private	4,	Letter to Sir H. Elliot explaining proceedings of Turkish Governor towards Chiefs of Lahej and Howshebee, and danger to our position at Aden	22

No.	No.	Date.	Subject.	Page
15. To Sir H. Elliot	15	Jan. 23, 1873	Inclosing despatch from Resident at Aden of October 26, and Memorandum as to the right of the Porte over Yemen. Her Majesty's Government await communication from the Porte, but would view seriously any unfriendly proceedings towards Chiefs near Aden	24
16. Duke of Argyll ..	Private	25,	Unsatisfactory nature of Turkish reply to our representations	34
17. Sir H. Elliot ..	11	13,	Conversation with Khalil Pasha as to intended proceedings against Sultan of Lahej. Turkish Governor's Report on the subject. Operations will not be commenced without notice to British Government	34
18. To Sir H. Elliot ..	19	30,	Her Majesty's Government cannot admit right of Porte to interfere with Chiefs in the neighbourhood of Aden	34
19. Sir H. Elliot.. ..	21	24,	Memorandum addressed to the Porte on receipt of letter from Sir B. Frere	35
20. India Office	..	30.	Letter addressed by Turkish Military Governor at Taizz to Sultan of Lahej. Advice given to Sultan	36
21. „ „	..	Feb. 12,	Correspondence from Resident at Aden and Government of India. Sultan of Lahej fears hostile movement by Turkish authorities. Resident has addressed remonstrance to Turkish Governor. Howshebee Chief has visited Turkish Commander at Taizz. Resident's letter to him and his reply. Detachment of troops from Aden sent for annual patrol in Lahej. Government of India consider the matter one of Imperial policy, and request representations to the Porte	37
22. Sir H. Elliot . ..	Telegraphic	14,	Orders sent to Governor-General of Yemen to abstain from interference with Lahej ..	49
23. To Sir H. Elliot ..	28	15,	Approves of Memorandum communicated to the Porte	49
24. Sir H. Elliot . ..	28	3,	Proposal of Porte that Sultan of Lahej should make nominal submission to Turkey. His reply. Difficulty of Turkish authorities in drawing back from position assumed ..	50
25. „ „	30	4,	Turkish designs on the coast of the Red Sea. His opinion as to, and as to considerations involved	50
26. „ „	41	12,	Has communicated to Khalil Pasha instruction of January 30. His Excellency's reply that question may be considered as settled ..	51
26*. Sir B. Frere ..	5	Jan. 10,	Calling attention to Turkish proceedings near Aden. Inconvenience likely to result. Position of Lahej. Necessity that Turks should not interfere beyond limits of the Highland country	51
27. To Sir H. Elliot ..	48	Feb. 24,	Approves of language to Khalil Pasha, reported in despatch of February 3 ..	56
28. Sir H. Elliot . ..	45	14,	Grand Vizier states that orders have been given not to interfere with Sultan of Lahej	56
29. India Office	..	Mar. 5,	That Sir H. Elliot be instructed firmly to maintain position taken up by Her Majesty's Government	56
30. To Sir H. Elliot ..	52	11,	Instructions in above sense	57
30A. India Office ..	..	13,	Proceedings of Turks at Shuhur and Maculla. What answer has been received to representations made in 1871?	57
30B. „ „	..	14,	Despatches from Government of India and from Resident at Aden respecting continued intrigues of Turkish authorities with the Chiefs round Aden. Remonstrance of Turkish Commander respecting Aden troops sent to Lahej. Suggestions of Resident as to material support to Sultan of Lahej if necessary. Proposal of Government of India to take the Chiefs directly under their protection and engage to defend them against Turkish aggression	58

No.	No.	Date.	Subject.	Page
31. To Sir H. Elliot ..	55	Mar. 17, 1873	Satisfaction at assurances reported in despatch of February 14. Her Majesty's Government would not agree to Sultan of Lahej making nominal submission to Turkey. To maintain position taken up	68
32. „ „ ..	66	20,	Copy of India Office letter of March 13. To make further representation as to Turkish proceedings at Shuhur and Maculla .	68
33. To India Office ..	..	24,	Answer to letter of 14th instant. Instructions sent to Sir H. Elliot. Before making further remonstrance would wish to have proof of right to take Chiefs under protection ..	68
34. India Office .. .	..	28,	Despatches from Resident at Aden. Letters addressed by him to neighbouring Chiefs and to Turkish authorities at Taizz. No truth in assertion of Turkish Commandant that Lahej Sultan had attacked a neighbouring Chief. Intrigues of Howshebee Chief. Engagements made by him, the Ameer, and the Rijalee Chief with the Turks. Reply of the Governor of Taizz to Resident's letter.	69
35. „ „	..	April 9,	Instructions sent to Government of India to furnish proofs of our right to take Chiefs under our protection	71
35*. Sir H. Elliot ..	102	10,	Turkish proceedings at Shuhur and Maculla. Further representation addressed to the Porte	72
36. India Office	..	26,	Despatch from Government of India. Assurances given to Sultan of Lahej. As to explanations of the conduct of the latter. The Turks have no right to interfere between him and the Sultan of Howshebee	72
37. „ „	..	May 12,	Telegram from Viceroy of India. Howshebee Sultan made a Turkish Governor and Turkish troops ordered to be sent to his territory. For remonstrances to Porte	74
38. „ „	..	12,	Despatch from Government of India, explaining right of Great Britain to take the native Chiefs round Aden under protection, and extent to which they think it should be exercised	75
38*. Sir H. Elliot ..	134	April 29,	Assurances given by Porte as to supposed designs of the Khedive to obtain Government of the Yemen	76
39. To Sir H. Elliot ..	111	May 15,	Inclosing copy of India Office letter of May 12. To ground his representations to the Porte on statements made in it. To remonstrate against recent acts of aggression in Howshebee country	76
40. India Office	..	22,	Turkish soldiers billeted in house of Howshebee Sultan at Shuka; to press for their withdrawal	77
41. To Sir H. Elliot ..	Telegraphic	23,	To press for withdrawal of soldiers billeted in house of Howshebee Sultan ..	77
42. India Office	..	29,	Telegram from Resident at Aden. Intended Turkish expedition from Taizz. Asks to be authorized to send troops from Aden to support Sultan of Lahej if necessary ..	78
43. „ „	Private	30,	Telegrams from India and Aden. Turkish troops in Howshebee country. Turkish Pasha should be removed	78
44. Sir H. Elliot . ..	Telegraphic	June 1,	Orders will be issued for removal of troops from Howshebee country	79
45. India Office	..	3,	Telegram from India. Resident at Aden instructed to remonstrate with Turkish Pasha, but not to send troops without orders from home. For representations to the Porte ..	79
46. To India Office ..	..	4,	Instructions sent to Sir H. Elliot. Porte promises withdrawal of troops .. .	79
47. To Sir H. Elliot ..	Telegraphic	5	Movements of troops near Aden inconsistent with assurances of Porte. To press for peremptory orders	80
48. Sir H. Elliot . ..	Telegraphic	6,	New Governor-General has left for Yemen with proper instructions	80
49. „ „	173	May 30,	Has made representations to Porte according to instructions of May 18th. Inquiries promised	80
50. „ „	175	June 1,	Confidential assurance from Rasehid Pasha that orders will be given to withdraw troops from Howshebee country	80

No.		No.	Date.	Subject.	Page
51.	To Sir H. Elliot ..	135	June 16, 1873	Approving language to Raschid Pasha reported in despatch of May 30	81
52.	India Office	..	17,	Further reports from Aden. Letter of Resident to Howshebee Chief; his reply. Turkish aggression in the Ameer country. Intrigues of Howshebee Chief with relatives of Sultan of Lahej. Intended Turkish reconnaissance from Taizz. Necessity of orders to Turks to abstain from interference with any of the tribes round Aden	81
53.	Sir H. Elliot ..	180	6,	Departure of new Governor-General for the Yemen, with instructions to abstain from interference with tribes near Aden ..	86
54.	India Office	..	July 3,	Further despatches from Aden. Warning sent by Turkish authorities to Chief of the Ameer tribe. Turkish expedition sent from Taizz. Remonstrance of Resident to Turkish Governor. Turkish troops still quartered in Howshebee country on frontier of Lahej ..	86
55.	„ „	..	9,	Telegram from Aden. Turkish force marched into Howshebee country. For inquiry at Constantinople as to steps taken to restrain these hostile proceedings	88
56.	„ „	..	11,	Despatches from Aden. Imprisonment of Chief of Ameer tribe by Turkish authorities at Taizz. His uncle made Governor in his stead. Reply of Turkish Commander to remonstrance of Resident. Position of Turkish troops	89
57.	To Sir H. Elliot ..	172	18,	Copy of India Office letter of July 11, with instructions as therein suggested	90
58.	Sir H. Elliot ..	247	18,	Reply of Porte to his representations. Explanations as to their policy in the Yemen .	91
59.	India Office	..	28,	Despatch from Aden. Reply of Governor-General of Yemen, stating that Porte's instructions are confined to Lahej, and defending proceedings in Howshebee country. Attempts to coerce Alowee and Foodhlee Chiefs	92
60.	„ „	..	31,	Further despatch from Aden. Attempt of Ameer Chief to escape from Turks. His re-imprisonment	95
61.	„ „	..	Aug. 5,	Telegram from Aden. New Governor-General has not withdrawn troops from Howshebee country	95
62.	To Sir H. Elliot ..	186	9,	Forwarding copy of above	96
63.	Sir H. Elliot ..	272	5,	Has communicated to Raschid Pasha report from Resident at Aden of May 12 as to proceedings of Turkish authorities. Raschid Pasha's assurances as to instructions given .	96
64.	„ „	..	Sept. 5,	Despatch from Government of India urging steps to obtain release of Ameer Chief. Letter from Governor at Taizz to Rijaee Sheikh contrary to instructions sent from Constantinople	96
65.	To Sir H. Elliot ..	214	10,	To request from Porte release of Ameer Chief and abstinence from further interference with that tribe	102
66.	Sir H. Elliot ..	325	8,	Orders telegraphed to new Governor-General of Yemen to observe previous instructions and withdraw troops	102
67.	India Office	..	27,	Despatch from Aden. Threatening letter sent by new Turkish Governor-General to Sultan of Lahej. For fresh representations at Constantinople. Resident has again demanded withdrawal of troops from Howshebee country	103
68.	„ „	..	Oct. 10,	Telegram from Aden. Turkish Governor-General ignores orders from Constantinople, and says Howshebee district is annexed to Province of Taizz	104
69.	To India Office ..	..	13,	Sir H. Elliot will be instructed to request that further stringent orders may be sent to Turkish authorities in Yemen	105
70.	India Office ..	..	13,	Despatch from Government of India enquiring whether Resident at Aden may be authorized to enter into engagements for extending British protection to neighbouring tribes ..	105

No.		No.	Date.	Subject.	Page
71.	India Office	..	Oct. 14, 1873	Telegram from Government of India, pressing for reply to the above enquiry	105
72.	Lord Granville ..	Minute	..	Proposes further representation to the Porte before step suggested above	106
73.	Mr. Gladstone ..	Memo.	17,	Agrees in Lord Granville's suggestion ..	106
74.	To Sir H. Elliot ..	229	17,	Copies of Nos. 67 and 68. For further stringent orders to Turkish Authorities in the Yemen	106
75.	To Duke of Argyll ..	Private	19,	Sending Mr. Gladstone's Memorandum as to expediency of making a further communication to the Porte before taking Aden tribes under British protection	107
76.	India Office	..	24,	Telegrams from Aden and India. Disturbance between Sultan of Lahej and his brothers. Turkish troops quartered in Lahej territory. Pressing for instructions and for telegraphic orders from the Porte to Governor of Taizz to withdraw troops from Howshebee and Lahej countries. Resident authorized to send troops to Lahej, but not to attack Turkish troops	107
77.	To Sir H. Elliot ..	Telegraphic	25,	Turkish troops quartered in Lahej territory. To express surprise of Her Majesty's Government, and request telegraphic orders for their withdrawal	108
78.	Sir H. Elliot ..	367	14,	Conversation with Raschid Pasha as to neglect of Turkish Commanders in Yemen to obey orders	108
79.	India Office	...	31,	Disagreement between Sultan of Lahej and his brothers on account of intrigues of the latter with the Turks. British force sent to Lahej.	109
80.	„ „	..	Nov. 3,	Reports of Resident from Lahej country. Turkish troops reinforced . ..	110
81.	Sir H. Elliot ..	388	Oct. 30,	Representations made to Raschid Pasha, who promises to bring the matter before the Cabinet. Report from Turkish Governor-General of Yemen	111
82.	India Office	..	Nov. 13.	Despatches from Resident at Aden. Request for surrender of Turkish deserters. Letter from Governor-General of Yemen to Resident ignoring orders of Porte, and stating that Howshebee country is part of province of Taizz; asserting also that Ameer Chief has been made a Member of Council at Taizz, which is obviously untrue. Proceedings of Sultan of Lahej towards his brothers. Telegram from Aden. No signs of withdrawal of Turkish troops .. .	114
83.	To Sir H. Elliot ..	249	13.	Approving steps reported in despatch of October 30	117
84.	India Office	..	13,	Position of affairs unsatisfactory. If Porte cannot be induced to withdraw troops more active measures must be taken	117
85.	To Sir H. Elliot ..	Telegraphic	14,	What answer has been made by Porte to representations?	118
86.	Sir H. Elliot ..	Telegraphic	15,	Porte promises that orders shall be sent for withdrawal of troops and shall be executed	118
87.	„ „	Telegraphic	16,	Telegraphic instruction sent to Governor-General of Yemen for withdrawal of troops from Howshebee and Lahej countries ..	118
88.	„ „	396	7,	Conversation with Raschid Pasha as to non-fulfilment of promises of Porte. Intention of Porte to send a Civil Commissioner to Yemen	118
89.	India Office	..	18.	Telegram from Resident at Aden. Arrival of Envoy from Turkish Governor with proposal to mediate between Sultan of Lahej and his relations. Proposal declined. Despatches respecting Turkish deserters to Aden, and giving detailed account of disturbance between Sultan of Lahej and his brothers, and arrival of Turkish troops. Despatch from Government of India. Serious aspect of affairs	119
90.	To Sir H. Elliot ..	Telegraphic	19,	Substance of Telegram from Resident at Aden. Pasha denies that he has received orders except respecting Lahej	123
91.	„ „ ..	254	20,	Approving language to Raschid Pasha reported in despatch of November 7	123

No.	No.	Date.	Subject.	Page
92. Sir H. Elliot ..	407 Confidential	Nov. 19, 1873	Conversations with Grand Vizier and Raschid Pasha. Their assurances. Intention of the Porte to send Civil Commissioner to Yemen .	123
93. India Office ..	..	26,	Telegram from Aden respecting interview of Resident with Envoy from Turkish Governor. Detailed Report of British expedition to Lahej	124
94. Raschid Pasha to Musurus Pasha	Telegraphic	26,	Explanations as to Turkish troops sent to Lahej, and orders given by the Porte	125
95. Sir B. Frere . ..	..	26,	Memorandum by Mr. Badger on tendency of Turkish encroachments in Arabia, and Russian policy in connection with it. Expediency of attending to Arabian newspaper press	126
96. To Sir H. Elliot ..	265	27,	Conversation with Turkish Ambassador, who communicated telegram from Raschid Pasha and requested withdrawal of British force from Lahej. Reply made	127
97. Sir H. Elliot ..	416	16,	Copy of telegram sent to Turkish Governor-General ordering withdrawal of troops from Lahej	128
98. India Office . ..	..	28,	Necessity of withdrawal of Turkish troops and interference from all the tribes in the vicinity of Aden. Calling attention to the importance of the question as shown in Sir B. Frere's despatch of January 18 ..	128
99. Sir H. Elliot ..	Telegraphic	29,	Obscurity of orders inclosed in his despatch of November 16. For further explanation ..	129
100. Admiralty	..	29,	Report from Admiral Cumming at Trincomalee. Lahej quiet Ship-of-war not required ..	129
101. Sir H. Elliot. ..	421	21,	Language held to Turkish Ministers as to failure of the Porte to fulfil its promises. Assurances given by Raschid Pasha that all the territories mentioned will be evacuated ..	129
102. „ „ . ..	Telegraphic	30,	Had already called attention to discrepancy between instructions sent and assurances given. Raschid Pasha's reply	130
103. „ „ . ..	Telegraphic	Dec. 2,	Raschid Pasha promises more comprehensive instructions	130
104. To India Office . ..	..	2,	Answer to letter of 28th instant. Copies of telegraphic correspondence with Sir H. Elliot. Instructions sent by Porte apply to all the tribes with whom Her Majesty's Government have relations	130
105. India Office.. ..	..	2,	Telegram from Resident. Turkish troops not withdrawn. Howshebee encroachments on Lahej. Time approaching for recourse to forces	131
106. To Sir H. Elliot ..	Telegraphic	2,	Repeating above telegram from the Resident at Aden	131
107. „ „ ..	Telegraphic	3,	How long will it take for the instructions to reach the Governor of Yemen ? ..	131
108. „ „ ..	269	4,	Conversation with Musurus Pasha. His request for withdrawal of British troops. Reply calling attention to non-fulfilment of Porte's promises	132
109. India Office . ..	..	4,	Cannot undertake to give instructions as to withdrawal of British troops	132
110. Sir H. Elliot. ..	Telegraphic	5,	Time taken in forwarding telegrams to Sana. Porte convinced that last instructions will be executed	132
111. „ „ . ..	Telegraphic	5,	Endeavours of Russian Ambassador to dissuade Porte from withdrawal of troops. Reply of Grand Vizier	132
112. „ „ . ..	Telegraphic	8,	Asks to be informed when Turkish troops leave Lahej	133
113. India Office . ..	..	9,	Telegrams from Resident at Aden. Withdrawal of Turkish troops from neighbourhood of Aden. Surrender of rebellious relatives of Sultan of Lahej. Despatch from Resident reporting proceedings	133
114. To Sir H. Elliot ..	Telegraphic	9,	Repeating telegram from Resident. Withdrawal of Turkish troops	133
115. „ „ ..	Telegraphic	9,	Repeating telegram from Resident. Surrender of relatives of Sultan of Lahej	133
116. Admiralty	..	8,	Report from Admiral Cumming. Her Majesty's ship "Wolverene" ordered to Aden	135

No.	No.	Date.	Subject.	Page
117. To India Office ..	Telegraphic ..	Dec. 11, 1873	What answer should now be returned to request of Turkish Government for withdrawal of British troops?	136
118. Sir H. Elliot ..	429	Nov. 29,	Proposal of Raschid Pasha that Sultan should grant autonomy by a Firman to the tribes near Aden	136
119. „ „ ..	431	30,	As to divergence between assurances of Porte and instructions sent by them. Explanation already sent	137
120. „ „ ..	433	Dec. 2,	Note addressed to Raschid Pasha requesting more comprehensive and explicit instructions. His Excellency's explanations, and promise that instructions should be sent as desired	137
121. Raschid Pasha to Musurus Pasha	..	11,	Categorical instructions sent, November 26, for evacuation of Howshebee by Turkish troops	138
122. To India Office ..	..	17,	Sir H. Elliot's despatch of November 29. Proposal that Sultan should grant autonomy to tribes. For opinion..	138
123. To Sir H. Elliot ..	..	17,	Approval of note to Raschid Pasha inclosed in despatch of December 2	138
124. To India Office ..	..	18,	Report received by Turkish Government that brother of Sultan of Lahej had been attacked and captured by British troops. Is it true ?.	139
125. To Musurus Pasha ..	..	21,	India Office have telegraphed to inquire as to reported attack on brother of Sultan of Lahej	139
126. Sir H. Elliot ..	437	5,	As to time taken in transmission of telegrams to Sana. Porte convinced that their instructions will be executed	139
127. „ „ ..	439 Confidential	5,	Attempts made by the Russian Ambassador to dissuade the Porte from withdrawing Turkish troops.	139
128. „ „ ..	444	7,	Conversations with the Grand Vizier and the Minister of War. The latter's defence of his conduct	140
129. „ „ ..	453	10,	Suspension of "Hakaik" newspaper for article commenting severely on British proceedings in the neighbourhood of Aden	140
130. India Office . ..	..	23,	Telegram from Resident at Aden, giving particulars as to surrender of brother of Sultan of Lahej	141
131. „ „ ..	..	23,	Cannot admit right of Porte to request withdrawal of British troops. Despatches from Resident at Aden reporting interviews with Envoy from the Governor of Yemen. Telegrams reporting return of British field force to Aden, and flight of Howshebee Chief	142
132. Sir H. Elliott ..	455	11,	Copy of telegraphic instruction sent by the Porte to the Governor-General of Yemen ..	145
133. „ „ ..	461 Confidential	15,	Opposition offered by Minister of War to Raschid Pasha's policy in withdrawing troops from Lahej	146
134. „ „ ..	462	16,	Raschid Pasha's proposal that brother of Sultan of Lahej should be handed over to Turkish authorities	146
135. To India Office ..	..	30,	Copy of Sir H. Elliot's despatch of December 7. His language approved	147
136. To Sir H. Elliot ..	284	30,	Approving language to Grand Vizier and Minister of War reported in despatch of December 7	147
137. „ „ ..	..	31,	Ambiguity of telegram from Aden as to withdrawal of British troops For opinion as to proposal that relatives of Sultan of Lahej should be sent to Constantinople	147
138. Sir H. Elliot ..	Telegraphic	Jan. 1, 1874	May he tell Sultan that British troops are withdrawn ? Russian Ambassador has told his Majesty the contrary	148
139. To Sir H. Elliot ..	Telegraphic	2,	No accurate information as to withdrawal of British troops. Resident at Aden instructed to report	148
140. To India Office ..	..	2,	Copy of Sir H. Elliot's telegram above. What answer ?	148
141. Sir H. Elliot ..	Telegraphic	4,	Audience of Sultan. His friendly remarks ..	148
141*. „ „ ..	470	Dec. 25, 1873	Satisfactory audience of Grand Vizier with Sultan, as regards question of Lahej ..	148

No.	No.	Date.	Subject.	Page
142. To Musurus Pasha ..	..	Jan. 5, 1874	Explanations as to surrender of Abdoollah to Resident at Aden	149
143. India Office ..	..	5,	Memorandum by Major Champain as to communication between Constantinople and the Yemen	149
144. Sir H. Elliot ..	Telegraphic	6,	Turkish Government hear that brothers of the Howshebee Sultan have been shot ..	150
145. To India Office ..	..	6,	Is above report true?	150
146. India Office ..	..	9,	Telegram from Resident at Aden. Report is not true	150
147. To Sir H. Elliot ..	..	9,	Repeating above	151
148. India Office ..	..	12,	Cannot agree to proposals for Porte granting autonomy to tribes, or for sending relatives of Sultan of Lahej to Constantinople. Despatches from Resident at Aden, giving account of withdrawal of Turkish, and further proceedings in Lahej and Howshebee countries	151
149. To Musurus Pasha ..	..	19,	Proposed arrangement respecting the relatives of the Sultan of Lahej not considered satisfactory	156

APPENDIX.

Correspondence respecting the Proceedings of the Turks at Shuhur and Maculla, 1869-71.

No.	No.	Date.	Subject.	Page
1. India Office ..	..	Sept. 17, 1869	Turkish proceedings at Shuhur and Maculla. To make representation to the Porte to induce their subjects from exercising undue influence on Chief of	157
2. To India Office ..	..	21,	Instructions sent to Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople	159
3. To Mr. Elliot ..	..	21,	Instructions in above sense	159
4. India Office ..	..	Oct. 25,	Note addressed to Aali Pasha	160
5. Mr. Elliot ..	..	Aug. 21, 1871	Rumoured intention of attack by Turkish authorities on Shuhur and Maculla. What answer was given to representations in 1869? ..	160
6. To Sir H. Elliot ..	162	29,	Copy of above. To obtain reply from Porte ..	162
7. To India Office ..	..	29,	No answer received in 1869. Instructions sent to Sir H. Elliot	162
8. Sir H. Elliot ..	..	Oct. 15,	Will again call attention of Porte to the subject	162
9. To India Office ..	..	Nov. 1,	Copy of above	163

Gibul Urhab
Hussan Gurras
Wadee Uhar
Reatha
Jerdf
Hussan Burash
Assoor
SANAA
Gibul Neequm
Mind
Mukna
Bogum
Bridge
Sagum
Mojak
Sooked Juma
Sook Thuloottee
Gibul Hurraz
Kubt ihn Deran
Selun
Benni Kord
Wadi Sehan
Cabolee
Rusdain
Juma
Jeraghur
Jibl Boggreb
Huskum
Samfore
Soo Kel
Hussun Doggen
Gibul Hamat
Sook el Had
Hudjea Pass
Aboo Gursh
Dumar
Sencef
Sook el Ithnain &
Jumaa
Jibal el Mazaha
Ayreen
Hejja
Jibal Hadeea
Mueada
El Khomh
Ibb
Jibla
Wadee Nasseree
Kattaba
Hill Fort
Urdaba
Kada
Shrab
Owdeen
Taaez
Seyeb
Biz
Rahia
Shugra
Gibul Foulhelee
Assalee
Gag Wallee
Ras Saylan
Lahedee (Howfa)
Aden
Gibul Kurruz
Khore Omeera
Ras Arrar Southern point of Arabia
Aden Harbour
ABDALEE TRIBE
HUGGRABEE TRE
Zaida (Shukri)
HOUSHEREA
Coffee Country
HOUSHEBEE
Grain Country
SUBIEES TRIBE
ALOOE
HATTABE
Road to Sanaa in 8 days
AMEERS
YAFFAAE TRIBE
Some Coffee
FOUTHELEE TRIBE
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Correspondence respecting Turkish Proceedings in the neighbourhood of Aden.

No. 1.

Mr. Merivale to Mr. Hammond.—(*Received May* 18.)

India Office, May 16, 1872.

Sir,

I AM directed by the Duke of Argyll to forward, for the information of Earl Granville, copy of a letter from the Government of India, with inclosed correspondence respecting the proceedings of the Turks at Hodeida, and the alleged employment, on their part, of agents to induce the chiefs in the neighbourhood of Aden to hoist the Ottoman flag.

I am, &c.
(Signed) HERMAN MERIVALE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 1.

The Governor-General of India in Council to the Duke of Argyll.

Fort William, April 19, 1872.

My Lord Duke,

WE have the honour to forward, for the information of Her Majesty's Government, a copy of two despatches from the Government of Bombay, relative to the proceedings of the Turks at Hodeida, and the alleged employment of agents on their part to induce Chiefs in the neighbourhood of Aden to hoist the Turkish flag.

2. We have asked the Bombay Government to furnish us with more detailed information on the latter subject.

We have, &c.
(Signed) NAPIER.
NAPIER OF MAGDALA.
JOHN STRACHEY.
R. TEMPLE.
B. H. ELLIS.
H. W. NORMAN.

Inclosure 2 in No. 1.

Mr. Wedderburn to Mr. Aitchison.

Bombay Castle, February 19, 1872.

I HAVE the honour, under instructions from his Excellency the Governor in Council, to forward, for the information of the Government of India, the accompanying copy of a letter from the Political Resident at Aden, of the 8th instant, reporting the receipt of intelligence that a Turkish force, consisting of 8,000 infantry and 1,000

cavalry, with guns in proportion, had landed at Hodeida with the view of advancing towards Sana.

Inclosure 3 in No. 1.

Major-General Tremenhere to Mr. Gonne.

Aden, February 8, 1872.

I HAVE the honour to report, for the information of Government, that a messenger has arrived from Hodeida to-day with the news that a Turkish force, consisting of 8,000 infantry and 1,000 cavalry, with guns in proportion, has landed at that port with the view of advancing towards Sana as soon as Ahmed Mukhtar Pasha arrives to take up the command. This intelligence is contained in a letter written by one of the principal inhabitants of Hodeida, a son of Abd-ur-Russool, who was formerly British Agent at Mokha, to a merchant at Aden, and although the numbers are probably exaggerated, I have every reason to believe that it is authentic.

2. It is also reported, on less trustworthy authority, that the Turks are on the point of getting the Asseeree country, leaving an adherent of their own to carry on the Government. The present Governor of Sana, Mahsin Mayedh, is said already to be involved in difficulties with the inhabitants and the cultivators of the surrounding districts, and it is probable that, as soon as the Turkish force leaves the sea-coast, the whole country will become disturbed.

3. As the progress of the Turks in this neighbourhood cannot fail to have considerable influence upon the position of this settlement, both politically and commercially, I shall be glad to be favoured with the views of Her Majesty's Government upon the subject at as early a date as possible.

Inclosure 4 in No. 1.

Mr. Gonne to Mr. Aitchison.

Bombay Castle, March 7, 1872.

REFERRING to the letter from the Political Resident at Aden, dated the 8th ultimo (copy of which accompanied the letter from this Office of the 19th idem), I am directed to state, for the information of the Government of India, that it has come to the knowledge of this Government, from a private source, that the Agents of the Turkish Government are actively employed in persuading the Chiefs in the neighbourhood of Aden, and on the coast immediately adjoining, to hoist the Turkish flag. His Excellency the Governor in Council thinks that, as we have agreements or Treaties with these Chiefs as possessing independent authority, this fact should be brought to the notice of Her Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs.

2. I am to refer to the correspondence ending with the Government of India's letter of the 30th March, 1870, and letter of the 21st June, 1871,* with regard to the undesirableness of the Turks occupying territory beyond the Red Sea.

No. 2.

Mr. Hammond to Mr. Merivale.

Foreign Office, May 22, 1872.

Sir,

I AM directed by Earl Granville to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 16th instant, respecting the proceedings of the Turks at Hodeida, and the steps taken by them to induce the Chiefs in the neighbourhood of Aden to hoist the Ottoman flag; and I am to request that you will suggest to the Duke of Argyll that the Government of India should be called upon to supply more specific information as to the arrangements with the Arab Chiefs, which they consider would justify remonstrance with the Porte.

I am, &c.

(Signed) E. HAMMOND.

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* See Appendix.

No. 3.

Mr. Merivale to Mr. Hammond.—(Received May 29.)

India Office, May 28, 1872.

Sir,

WITH reference to your letter of the 22nd instant, I am directed by the Duke of Argyll to state, for the information of Earl Granville, that the Government of India have been requested, as suggested by his Lordship, to supply more specific information as to the arrangements with the Arab Chiefs, which would justify Her Majesty's Government in remonstrating against the proceedings of the Turkish authorities at Hodeida and elsewhere, in endeavouring to induce the Chiefs in those parts to hoist the Ottoman flag.

I am, &c.

(Signed) HERMAN MERIVALE.

No. 4.

Mr. Merivale to Mr. Hammond.—(Received August 16.)

India Office, August 13, 1872.

Sir,

WITH reference to previous correspondence terminating with my letter of 28th of May, 1872, I am directed by the Duke of Argyll to forward, for the information of Earl Granville, copy of a letter from the Government of India, dated 1st July, 1872, respecting the relations of the British Government with the Chiefs in the neighbourhood of Aden.

I am, &c.

(Signed) HERMAN MERIVALE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 4.

The Governor-General of India in Council to the Duke of Argyll.

Simla, July 1, 1872.

My Lord Duke,

IN continuation of our despatch dated 19th April, 1872, we have the honour to forward, for the information of Her Majesty's Government, a copy of the further documents specified in the accompanying Abstract of Contents, relative to the proceedings of the Turks in the neighbourhood of Aden.

2. We take this opportunity of acknowledging receipt of your Political Secretary's letter dated 24th May. The arrangements with the Chiefs in the neighbourhood of Aden, to which the Bombay Government referred in the communication on which the remark of Her Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs was based, are to be found detailed in pages 271-307 of Aitchison's Treaties, Volume VII. The Treaty with the Foodhelee Chief was recast in 1867, and will be found in the first inclosure of our despatch of 23rd July of that year. As your Grace will gather from the paper which forms No. 8 of the Abstract of Contents, we await further information before forming an opinion on the question whether there is likely to be any need of a representation on the part of the British Government to the Ottoman Porte on the subject of the proceedings in Yemen.

We have, &c.

(Signed) NORTHBROOK.
NAPIER OF MAGDALA.
JOHN STRACHEY.
R. TEMPLE.
H. W. NORMAN.
A. HOBHOUSE.
E. C. BAYLEY.

Inclosure 2 in No. 4.

Mr. Gonne to Mr. Aitchison.

Bombay Castle, May 2, 1872.

IN continuation of the letter from this Office, dated the 20th ultimo, I have the honour, by direction of his Excellency the Governor in Council, to forward, for the information of the Government of India, the accompanying copy of a news-report, received from the Political Resident, Aden.

Inclosure 3 in No. 4.

News Report from the 11*th to the* 24*th April*, 1872, *inclusive.*

Aden Residency, April 24, 1872.

WALLEE PASHA, commanding the army of Yemen, has published a Report giving an account of the operations of the Turkish force employed in the expedition against Sana. From a copy which has reached Aden we learn the following particulars:—

The expeditionary force, which consisted of five regiments with five pieces of ordnance, left Hodeida on the 6th March. After a march of six days the troops arrived at Howayyeh, and, having taken up their position on the slope of a hill which commanded the fort, they opened a bombardment, which was sustained with a vigour for a day and a-half, at the expiration of which time the fortress was carried and the garrison made prisoners. A portion of the force was then sent to reduce Attarah, a fortress standing on the west of a lofty and precipitous hill; whilst the remainder marched against the Bait al Dace, in which Hassan bin Ismail, the Chief of the Yam tribe, had taken refuge with his son and sixty followers. Attarah surrendered at once, but the fort of Al Dace still held out at the date of Wallee Pasha's communication. The fortresses of Shibam, Mutwah, Masar, Kahib, and Manakha, were successively reduced, whilst fifteen others capitulated at once without exchanging a shot. About eighty Sheikhs rendered their submission, and have been permitted to return to their homes. The whole of the districts of Al Hannah, Jebel Hamaz, and Jebel Aniz had been subjugated, with the exception of Al Dace, when Wallee Pasha wrote.

Later accounts state that the fort of Al Dace has since capitulated, and that Hassan bin Ismail has fallen into the hands of the Turks. He was at once sent to Hodeida and died the day after his arrival.

It is reported on fair authority that the Turks are now in possession of Sana. The Bedouins of the neighbourhood, taking advantage of the disturbed state of the country, assumed such a threatening attitude that the inhabitants, fearing the city would be plundered, wrote to the Turkish General to entreat his intervention. He accordingly sent a body of troops to occupy the town, which they entered without opposition.

There is no local news of interest to communicate. Her Majesty's steamer "Glasgow," with Lord Northbrook and suite on board, arrived here on the 16th and left on the following evening. The French corvette "D'Assas" arrived here yesterday afternoon *en route* for France.

The weather has been uncertain during the last few days. On the 22nd there was a smart shower during the morning, and at the hospital in camp, where the fall was heaviest, from 80 to 85 cents. were recorded.

(Signed) C. W. TREMENHERE, *Major-General, Resident at Aden.*

Inclosure 4 in No. 4.

Mr. Gonne to Mr. Aitchison.

Bombay Castle May 17, 1872.

IN continuation of this office letter dated 7th March last, I am directed to forward to you, for submission to the Government of India, the inclosed copy of a further letter from the Political Resident at Aden, dated the 7th instant, giving cover to copy of a communication, with accompaniments, from the Sultan of Lahej, to his address, relative to the progress made by the Turkish forces, under the command of Ahmed Mukhtar Pasha, in the subjugation of the Province of Yemen.

Inclosure 5 in No. 4.

Major-General Tremenhere to Mr. Gonne.

Aden Residency, May 7, 1872.

IN continuation of my letter dated the 8th February, 1872, I have the honour to forward, for information of Government, translation of a letter, with accompaniments, which I have received from the Sultan of Lahej, and which relates to the progress made by the Turkish forces, under the command of Ahmed Mukhtar Pasha, in the subjugation of the Province of Yemen.

2. I have further to report that this day a messenger has arrived at Aden, having been dispatched by Ahmed Mukhtar Pasha to communicate to Constantinople by telegraph the news of the capture of Sana, which event occurred on the 24th of last month. There can be little doubt that now possession of the capital is secured, the conquest of Iaiz, Oodain, Ibb, Jibleh, and the other coffee districts will speedily follow. From the letters now transmitted to Government, the authenticity of which I have no reason to doubt, it would appear that it is the intention of the Porte to obtain possession of all the country as far as Aden, or, in other words, to make the limits of the newly-constituted vilayet of Yemen co-extensive with those of the province as they existed in the sixteenth century.

3. I believe that, whilst a general feeling of uneasiness prevails amongst all the Chiefs in the vicinity of this Settlement, the Sultan of Lahej is especially anxious upon the subject. The advantages which he derives from his connection with the British are so obvious that he naturally views with apprehension the approach of another, and possibly inimical, Power, from whom he has everything to fear and nothing to hope. With respect to the effect which the extension of Turkish rule in the direction of Aden would have upon this Settlement it is difficult to form an opinion. It would, of course, be the object of the Government of the Sultan to divert the trade to the ports which it possesses upon the Red Sea, and this might, without difficulty, be effected either by the adoption of a liberal commercial policy and the withdrawal of any but the lightest customs duties at Hodeida, Lohaia, &c., or, on the other hand, by the imposition of heavy inland duties on all merchandize finding its way to Aden.

4. As my ignorance of the views of Her Majesty's Government upon this subject may possibly place me in a position of some difficulty in the event of a sudden advance of the Turkish troops within the territories of those Chiefs with whom the British Government have entered into Treaties, I trust I may be favoured with instructions for my guidance.

Inclosure 6 in No. 4.

Sultan Fadhl of Lahej to Major-General Tremenhere.

(Translation.) 22 *Safer*, 1289.

(After compliments.)

AT the beginning of this month I received a letter from Syed Ali bin Ahmed, the Imam, communicating the intentions of the Pasha. I did not inform you of it before as I was doubtful of the truth of the contents. One of the merchants from Jibleh has come to me this week. He is a truthful man, and I have faith in his words. He also showed me a letter which corroborated the statement of Syed Ali bin Ahmed.

Inclosure 7 in No. 4.

The Imam to Sultan of Lahej.

(Translation.) 20 *Mohurrum*, 1289.

(After compliments.)

I HAVE received a circular from Mushir Ahmed Mukhtar Pasha, stating that the Turks have become masters of all that tract of land that stretches from the country of the Assirs to the confines of Aden, I have also received a letter from him from Hodeida, in which he informed me that he was marching on Sana by way of Haraz. I received another letter on the 19th of Mohurrum, stating that Haraz and Haimah both have been captured and that he was proceeding to Sana. He will march in triumph to Sana and will easily conquer all the country of Yemen. There is no speaking about his strength.

He has such cannons and such an army as would defy description. The Pasha also instructed me to write to all the Sheikhs, and to give information regarding the country as far as the limits of Aden. The Pasha wants them to give replies to him. Write and answer this letter soon.

Inclosure 8 in No. 4.

Copy of Letters which the Pasha wrote to the Imam.

(Translation.) 10 *Moharrum*, 1289.

(After compliments.)

I HAVE heard that you show much friendship towards our Government, and that you advise your subjects to pay obedience to the great Sultan of the Muslims. I, therefore, feel it incumbent on my part to show you similar friendship. I have also seen the letter that you had written to Mutasaref Tahir Pasha. From these I was convinced of your sincere friendship. I hope you will get great respect and rewards from our great Government for this act of friendship. The country of Yemen has become a part of the Empire of Turkey. It is necessary to improve it and to administer justice and equity in a way pleasing to God, and to suppress all wrong and violence and riots. Armies will be sent to every quarter. Our Government has entrusted me with a sufficient force, and will continue to give me every assistance. I have sent a detachment to Sana by way of Haraz. I intend to march there with another force. When the force goes to Sana, I hope to pay a visit to you and all the Sheikhs and officers. Remain always on the same terms of amity with our Government as you are now, and give me every information of the country stretching as far as Aden.

(After compliments.) 11 *Moharrum*, 1289.

I send this letter to you after the capture of Haraz and Haimah. All the fortresses and strongholds have fallen into our hands. I want you to write letters to all the Sheikhs, viz., of Ibb, Jibleh, Baadan el Mukhader, Hobeish Dhei-Sofal, Oodain, and others who are in the neighbourhood of Aden, and to give advice to the Nakeebs (of Dhei Mahomed) that the land is of God, and that good men are its rightful owners: that the end of their (*i.e.*, the Sheikhs) rule is come, and that it will be good for them if they give it up without resistance. Let them take this warning from the fate that the Assirs, Mohamed bin Ayeth, and the Daee Hussam bin Ismail, met with at our hands. I will write you a letter from Sana a few days hence if there be any business for you to do.

Inclosure 9 in No. 4.

Mr. Gonne to Mr. Aitchison.

Bombay Castle, May 17, 1872.

IN continuation of the letter from this Office, dated the 11th instant, I have the honour, by direction of his Excellency the Governor in Council, to forward, for the information of the Government of India, the accompanying copy of a news-report received from the Political Resident at Aden.

Inclosure 10 in No. 4.

News-Report from the 2nd to the 8th May, 1872.

Aden Residency, May 8, 1872.

THE Turkish troops, under the command of the Mushir Ahmed Mukhtar Pasha, entered the city of Sana on the 24th of April.

Sultan Haidara bin Ahmed, the Chief of the Foodhelee tribe, left Aden on the evening on the 6th under a salute of nine guns. Sultan Ali bin Ahmed, of the Yaffaee tribe, takes his departure this day.

Her Majesty's gun-vessel "Vulture," Captain Cay, arrived in harbour on the afternoon of the 5th instant. At the request of the Resident she left yesterday evening for Perim, to carry out the relief of the detachment which has been stationed at the out-posts for upwards of five months.

Shipping Report.—Arrivals.—May 1, 1872, Peninsular and Oriental steam-ships "Surat," from Suez, and "Abydos," from Zanzibar.

(Signed) C. W. TREMENHERE, *Major-General,*
Resident at Aden.

Inclosure 11 in No. 4.

Mr. Gonne to Mr. Aitchinson.

Bombay Castle, May 23, 1872.

IN continuation of the letter from this Office, dated the 17th instant, I have the honour, by direction of his Excellency the Governor in Council, to forward, for the information of the Government of India, the accompanying copy of a news-report received from the Political Resident at Aden.

Inclosure 12 in No. 4.

News Report from the 9th to the 15th May, 1872.

Aden Residency, May 15, 1872.

IT is reported that an application has been made by Ahmed Mukhtar Pasha for reinforcements. The Turkish troops are not in sufficient force at Sana to admit of any distant expedition being taken.

His Excellency Sir Seymour Fitzgerald and party arrived here in the mail-steamer "Pekin" on the morning of the 13th instant, and left yesterday evening.

Her Majesty's steamer "Vulture" returned from Perim on the 10th instant, and left for Bombay on the 11th.

There is no news from the interior to communicate.

(Signed) C. W. TREMENHERE, *Major-General,*
Resident at Aden.

Inclosure 13 in No. 4.

Mr. Gonne to Mr. Aitchison.

Bombay Castle, May 30, 1872.

IN continuation of the letter from this Office, dated the 23rd instant, I have the honour, by direction of his Excellency the Governor in Council, to forward, for the information of the Government of India, the accompanying copy of a news-report received from the Political Resident at Aden.

Inclosure 14 in No. 4.

News-Report from the 16th to the 22nd May, 1872.

Aden Residency, May 22, 1872.

FURTHER particulars relative to the occupation of Sana by the Turkish forces have reached Aden during the past week. It appears that, on the 24th April, the deposed Imam Ghalib, and about 100 of the principal merchants of the place, met the Mushir Ahmed Mukhtar Pasha at Assir, on the outskirts of Sana, and welcomed him with many expressions of cordiality. The Pasha, who seemed much pleased with these friendly demonstrations, announced that a free pardon would be granted in respect to all past offences against the Turkish Government. The encampment was then formed at Lakamat Ez Zabeeb, whilst one of the regiments entered and took formal possession of the city, hoisting the Imperial standard, under a salute of 101 guns. On the 26th of April the Pasha himself visited the city, and visited the fort of Kosr, the mosque of Bakariya, the principal baths, and other public buildings. The following day a detachment was sent to Shawoob to chastise the Defnees—one of the refractory tribes in the neighbourhood. A short and decisive action took place. Within three hours the strong-

hold of the Chief was demolished, twenty of the chief men were killed, and a large number of prisoners were brought into Sana. It is stated that there are seven regiments, with ten pieces of ordnance, in garrison at Sana. The Pasha will, it is expected, shortly send another expedition against the Hazinz, Gadhir, Dar Salim, Amar al Atharee, and other of the robber tribes who have for years past rendered the approaches to Sana almost impassable for travellers.

It is reported from Hodeida that one of the first steps towards opening the country in the vicinity of that port has been taken by the abolition of the tax of 1 dollar on every camel, which was formerly levied by the Chief of Bajil, Hamood bin Ali Homaida. This has been done by the express orders of the Mushir.

There is no news from the immediate neighbourhood of Aden to report. The country is quiet, and supplies are brought in regularly.

(Signed) C. W. TREMENHERE, *Major-General, Resident at Aden.*

Inclosure 15 in No. 4.

Mr. Aitchison to Mr. Gonne.

Simla, June 20, 1872.

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letters relative to the proceedings of the Turks in Yemen.

2. With reference to the remarks made by the Political Resident in Aden in his letter to your address, dated 7th May, 1872 (a copy of which was forwarded with the second of your letters under acknowledgment), as to the anxiety felt by the Chiefs of the country around Aden in respect to the attitude taken by the Turks, I am to convey the wish of the Viceroy and Governor-General in Council, that General Tremenhere may be instructed to report all he learns regarding the proceedings of the latter, and the feelings of the Chiefs towards them, but in no way to interfere or take action without direct orders from Government.

Inclosure 16 in No. 4.

Mr. Gonne to Mr. Aitchison.

Bombay Castle, May 31, 1872.

IN continuation of this Office letter, dated 17th ultimo, I am directed to forward to you, for submission to the Right Honourable the Viceroy and Governor-General in Council, copy of a further letter from the Political Resident at Aden, dated 21st idem, giving cover to a communication, with accompaniments, from the Sultan of Lahej, on the subject of the proceedings of the Turks in Yemen.

Inclosure 17 in No. 4.

Major-General Tremenhere to Mr. Gonne.

Aden Residency, May 21, 1872.

IN continuation of my letter, dated 7th instant, I have the honour to forward translation of further correspondence received from the Sultan of Lahej on the subject of the acquisition of the Province of Yemen by the Turkish Government.

2. I informed the Sultan, in reply to his letter, that, if he wished to follow my advice, he would take no notice of such letters as those of which he had sent copies, and which were probably written by men who had no authority from the Pasha to do so, and whose object was a base one. I stated that the Pasha was well aware that the Sultan of Lahej was under Treaty relations with the British Government, and would, I was convinced, do nothing which might interfere with the Sultan acting up to his engagements. I concluded by intimating that it would be time enough to consider what course to adopt when the Pasha addressed the Sultan personally, and in that event that I should be also prepared to offer my advice.

Inclosure 18 in No. 4.

Sultan Fadhl of Lahej to Major-General Tremenhere.

(Translation.)
(After compliments.) 9 *Rubee-ul-Awul*, 1289. (*Received May* 17, 1872).

I SENT you a letter which I received from Syed Ahmed, the Imam, who was desired by the Pasha to give information to all. You sent me no reply about it. I have now received a letter from Sheikh Mohideen, which inclosed a letter from the Imam, and a copy of the notice from the Pasha, all of which I send you. I am the more afraid as you gave me no assurance not to fear. If you had done so, I would have nothing to fear; nor did you write what answer to give to the Imam in case you think that an answer should be sent; if so, tell me what reply I am to send. If you tell me to remain quiet I will do so. You know the power of this army; you know also my condition, the state of my country and people. In comparison with them I am as a drop in the ocean. If I had no connection with Aden like other hill tribes of Yemen, I would act according to the dictates of my reason. I do not want to be under the control of any other Government save yours. If a person has got authority, and has orders to do a thing, he will do it, whether willing or not. Lahej is the garden of Aden, and it contains also a Government garden. I feel sure you will not desert me without giving me assurance of a nature to set my fears at rest. If you will give me confidence, I will not give a reply; otherwise I will make my own arrangement about the safety of my property, of my blood, and of my honour. I will then say that I was constrained to do so, and I did so. This is a real hardship to me, as I cannot resist them, owing to my feebleness. It is equally hard not to be able to make any reply without your orders, as I am under your protection. Please send me a verbal or a written reply.

Inclosure 19 in No. 4.

Sheikh Mohideen to the Sultan of Lahej.

(Translation.)
(After compliments.) 4 *Rubee-ul-Awul*, 1289.

I WRITE you this after having been invited by the Pasha to proceed to Sana to make arrangements which may tend to my benefit. Some Sheikhs of Yemen are going with me; others will follow me by and by. I send you a letter from the Imam, inclosing a notice. Please send me a reply for it. This Pasha is very good natured, and of a pure conscience. He only wants us to obey him and to submit to his authority. I am now going to Sana. If you have any letters for the Pasha, send them by the hand of my son, who will forward them to me.

Inclosure 20 in No. 4.

Syed Ahmed bin Ali, the Imam, to the Sultan of Lahej.

(Translation.)
(After compliments.) 1 *Rubee-ul-Awul*, 1289.

A MESSENGER came to me from the Wallee of Yemen with a letter written after the capture of Sana. Bakil and Hashed have submitted. Those who disobey will, of course, suffer loss, and such treatment will doubtless be good for them. May God enhance the power of our Emperor. Show him your love and bless his name in your Musjid. Send a reply to me and to the Pasha to the effect that you will obey. The Pasha has desired me to write to people like you. Give advice to all others, and you will get much honour. Write to the Pasha also that you have received this notice through me. I have also written that you are much attached to this cause. If I happen to go to Sana, I will write to you from that place. I send a circular letter, read it, and make two copies of it. Send one of these to the Hooshebee, and the other to the Soobahees country.

Inclosure 21 in No. 4.

Notice circulated by the Pasha, Governor-General of Yemen.

Sana, 18 Safar, 1289.

THIS notice is given to all the Syeds and learned men, the Chiefs, Sheikhs, and heads of tribes, residents in Yemen, that the city of Sana has been taken possession of by the Imperial Guard. This city, with its dependencies in Yemen, has been a part of the Turkish Empire, and has descended as an inheritance from generation to generation. In pursuance of the intention of the Emperor, I have been sent to Yemen to give comfort and protection to all its inhabitants, and to suppress all the wrong-doings and cruelties with which they were before oppressed. It is the earnest desire of our Emperor to improve the state of the country, to extend agriculture, to promote commerce, and thereby to bring it into a thriving condition. God is the witness of the sincerity of my desires. It is my wish to carry out faithfully all the orders of the Emperor. I am averse to shedding blood, and to throw curses on the soil. I send this notice to all, great and small. I heard that some of you want to leave the country through dread. I will pay no regard to the false insinuations of others. I will give protection to those who will come to me, and send them home back in safety. As for those who refuse to come the blame will be on them. I have extended pardon and offered an amnesty to all offenders who have sinned against our Government from the beginning to the present time. All travellers and wayfarers in general shall have the protection of God and our Sultan as long as they are under our authority. Do you, Chiefs and Sheikhs, come to me that I may devise means for your benefit and for your good condition. As for those who commit outrages on the roads, plunder goods which are not their own, and be refractory, I will consider it lawful to seize their property, and to shed their blood, and I shall not be guilty before God, as they are deserving of such treatment. You learned men, listen and obey. You will not be the losers in any way. By this your trade and agriculture will increase, and then you will bless our Sultan for it. May God give effect to all these designs, and keep the consciences of all men pure.

Inclosure 22 in No. 4.

Mr. Aitchison to Mr. Gonne.

Simla, June 13, 1872.

IN reply to your letter, without number and date, received in this Office on the 5th instant, forwarding a copy of papers relative to the proceedings of the Turks in Yemen, I am directed to state that the Right Honourable the Viceroy and Governor-General in Council approves of the action taken by the Political Resident at Aden, as reported in paragraph 2 of his letter to the Bombay Government, dated May 21, 1872.

Inclosure 23 in No. 4.

Papers relating to Arrangement made with the Foodhelee Chief in 1867.

Lieutenant-Colonel Merewether to Mr. Gonne.

Aden, July 23, 1867.

(Extract.)

THE son (of Ahmed bin Abdulla, the Foodhelee Chief), Sultan Haidara, came in on the 12th of April, when the following terms were given to him to take back to his father, when, if they were solemnly accepted and signed by the Chief, past offences would be forgiven and forgotten:—

I. That Sultan Ahmed bin Abdulla, on behalf of himself, his successors, and his tribe, solemnly binds himself to abstain in future from all acts of plunder and disorderly violence.

II. To maintain peace with the neighbouring tribes, friends of the British Government.

III. To protect all merchants and travellers passing through his country. Any member of the tribe acting contrary to this rule to be immediately punished.

IV. That one of the sons, or a near trusted relation, of the reigning Sultan of the

Foodhelee tribe shall reside in Aden, to be near the Resident and to transact business relating to the tribe.

V. On these terms being solemnly agreed to, the past will be forgotten.

The terms were purposely made as few and simple as possible, and yesterday the Sultans* mentioned in the first paragraph of this despatch delivered them to me, signed and sealed by Sultan Ahmed.

It has been publicly proclaimed to-day that there is peace between the British Government and the Foodhelees, and the restriction on the entrance of the tribe into Aden has been removed.

Mr. Wedderburn to Mr. Gonne.

Simla, July 2, 1867.

IN reply to your letter, 21st ultimo, forwarding copy of a letter in which the Political Resident at Aden reports the unconditional surrender of the Foodhelee Sultan, Ahmed bin Abdulla, and the terms of peace concluded with that Chief, I am directed to state that the Governor-General in Council considers the intelligence very satisfactory. The Government of India has much pleasure in ratifying the Agreement.

No. 4 A.

Mr. Merivale to Mr. Hammond.—(*Received September* 13.)

India Office, September 12, 1872.

Sir,

WITH reference to my letter of the 13th ultimo, I am directed by the Duke of Argyll to forward, for the information of Earl Granville, copy of a despatch from the Government of India dated 29th July, with inclosed correspondence respecting the proceedings of the Turks in Yemen.

I am, &c.

(Signed) HERMAN MERIVALE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 4 A.

The Governor-General of India in Council to the Duke of Argyll.

Simla, July 29, 1872.

My Lord Duke,

IN continuation of our despatch dated the 1st instant, we have the honour to forward, for the information of Her Majesty's Government, a copy of a despatch from the Bombay Government, dated 21st ultimo, relating to the proceedings of the Turks in Yemen.

We have, &c.

(Signed) NORTHBROOK.
NAPIER OF MAGDALA.
JOHN STRACHEY.
R. TEMPLE.
H. W. NORMAN.
A. HOBHOUSE
E. C. BAYLEY.

Inclosure 2 in No. 4 A.

Mr. Gonne to Mr. Aitchison.

Bombay Castle, June 21, 1872.

WITH reference to Mr. Lyall's letter dated the 6th April last, I am directed to transmit herewith, for submission to the Government of India, copy of a letter from the Political Resident at Aden, dated the 25th ultimo, connected with the subject of the movements of the Turks in Yemen, and to state that the information communicated in

* Sultan Haidara bin Ahmed, Saleh bin Abdulla, and Hussein bin Ahmed.

this letter of the 7th March, 1872, was obtained from a private source by his Excellency Sir Seymour Fitzgerald.

2. The Political Resident's letters were forwarded to the Government of India with the letters from this Office, dated respectively the 17th and 31st May, 1872.

Inclosure 3 in No. 4 A.

Major-General Tremenhere to Mr. Gonne.

Aden, May 25, 1872.

WITH reference to Government Resolution No. 2751 dated 11th May, 1872, I have the honour to state that, in my letters dated respectively the 7th and 21st May, 1872, I have communicated to Government all the information in my possession with respect to the movements of the Turks in Yemen.

2. I cannot find in my correspondence with Government any expression which would warrant the statement used by the Government of India to the effect that "Turkish agents are actively employed in persuading the Chiefs in the neighbourhood of Aden to hoist the Turkish flag." I have no reason to believe that such is the case, and I am of opinion that the letters which have been addressed to the Sultan of Lahej have emanated from persons who have no direct authority from the Porte to enter into communication with the Chiefs in this neighbourhood, and that they have been led to do so through motives of self-interest. This opinion is strengthened by a letter which I have to-day received from Sheikh Abd-ur-Rub, a Chief of the Sharjabee tribe, which informs me that he has received a direct invitation from Ahmed Mukhtar Pasha to join his camp. The Sharjabee tribe was formerly in possession of the fertile coffee districts which surround the town of Taizz.

3. I consider it improbable that the Turkish Government has any desire to assert more than a nominal authority over the less productive districts which lie between the hill country of Yemen and this peninsula. The Chiefs may possibly be called on to make a formal acknowledgment of the suzerainty of the Porte, but unless the Bedaween tribes assume a hostile attitude it is unlikely that troops will be moved further south than Ibb or Jibleh.

No. 4 B.

Mr. Merivale to Mr. Hammond.—(Received October 30.)

India Office, October 29, 1872.

Sir,

WITH reference to my letter of 13th August, I am directed by the Duke of Argyll to forward, for the information of Earl Granville, copy of a further despatch from the Government of India, dated 9th September, 1872, relative to the proceedings of the Turks in Yemen.

I am, &c.

(Signed) HERMAN MERIVALE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 4 B.

The Governor-General of India in Council to the Duke of Argyll.

Simla September 9, 1872.

My Lord Duke,

IN continuation of our despatch dated 1st July last, we have the honour to forward, for the information of Her Majesty's Government, a copy of a further letter from the Bombay Government, dated 19th ultimo, relative to the proceedings of the Turks in Yemen.

We have, &c.

(Signed) NORTHBROOK.
NAPIER OF MAGDALA.
JOHN STRACHEY.
R. TEMPLE.
H. W. NORMAN.
A. HOBHOUSE.
E. C. BAYLEY.

Inclosure 2 in No. 4 B.

Mr. Gonne to Mr. Aitchison.

Bombay Castle, August 19, 1872.

IN continuation of previous correspondence ending with Mr. Lyall's dated the 13th June last, regarding the proceedings of the Turks in Yemen, I am directed to forward herewith, for submission to the Government of India, copy of a further letter, dated 6th instant, from the Resident at Aden on the subject.

2. I am also to inclose copy of a second letter received from the Resident, of the same date.

Inclosure 3 in No. 4 B.

Brigadier-General Schneider to Mr. Gonne.

Aden, August 6, 1872.

IN continuation of the correspondence noticed in Government Resolutions, dated the 5th and 9th July, 1872, respectively, I have the honour to acquaint you, for submission to the Honourable the Governor in Council, that the Sultan of Lahej paid me a farewell visit a few days ago, before returning home, on which occasion he expressed the liveliest apprehension at the proceedings of the Turks in Yemen, and inquired if I could give him any promise of assistance in case of need.

2. I reminded the Sultan of the advice that had been given him by Major-General Tremenhere, continued in his letter of the 21st May, and of what had been said to him. I added that the late Resident's action had received the approval of the Government of India, and that it would be time enough to entertain anxiety when he received a direct communication from the Pasha of Yemen.

3. The Sultan of Lahej then asked what he should do if such a communication reached him, and I recommended him to forward it to the Resident, who would place it before Government.

4. I beg to annex translation of a letter received by me this morning from the Sultan of Lahej, inclosing a communication addressed to him from Sana by Sheikh Ameen bin Kassim Hassan. I have returned the original letter from the latter to the Sultan with a courteous reply, but without in any way advising him beyond reverting to the fact that General Tremenhere had already told him he would do well not to notice such letters.

Inclosure 4 in No. 4 B.

Sultan Fudhl bin Mohsin to Brigadier-General Schneider.

(Translation.)

(After compliments.) 29 *Jumad-Awal*, 1289. (*Received August* 5, 1872.)

AFTER our departure from Aden we reached our country safely. By the blessing of God we suffered nothing on our journey. We found many places flooded with water, which had come when we were at Aden. We are glad of this, and hope that God will send water in the beginning of this month, for this is the time for it. I like you very much, and am obliged to you for having consented to visit our country in the cold season. We are anxious for this time to arrive. By my visit to your place, the rumours in the bazaar have subsided, and my heart has found rest. Within a few days I received from Sheikh Ameen bin Kassim Hassan a letter, which he sent by a special messenger, and which I inclose. The messenger is in my place, waiting for your reply.

I will act according to your direction.

Inclosure 5 in No. 4 B.

Sheikh Ameen bin Kassim Hassan to Sultan Fudhl bin Mohsin.

(Translation.)

(After compliments. 15 *Jumad-Awal*, 1289.

I WRITE this from the city of Sana. The Mushir Ahmed Mookhtar Pasha summoned me to transact some important business. When I went up to him, I saw that

ancient times had never produced a man like him in action and conduct. He gives honour to all, according to their station and dignity; he does everything according to custom. He has appointed me Sheikh of Hajariya, Taizzia, Shameer, Sharab, and Dhoraibat. When I was talking with him, your name was mentioned. I heard nothing of his entertaining bad feelings towards you. You know, O my friend, he belongs to the High Government, and is a man of exalted rank. It is not right or befitting that you should remain quiet. It is my opinion that you should make haste to go to him, or send Sheikh Mahomed bin Mohsin. This is not good for you. This advice is given on account of the friendship that existed between your brother, Ali bin Mohsin, and my father. If you want anything, I will do it for you satisfactorily. An answer should be sent.

Inclosure 6 in No. 4 B.

Brigadier-General Schneider to Mr. Gonne.

Aden, August 6, 1872.

I HAVE the honour to report, for the information of Government, that I was visited on the 2nd August by Sultan Ali bin Mana, the Howshebee. A petty robbery had been committed in the Lahej territory by one of his subjects, and it was arranged that he should settle amicably with the aggrieved party, who is at present residing in Aden.

2. I availed myself of this opportunity to inquire whether he had received any communication from the Turks in Yemen, to which he replied in the affirmative, adding that he had taken no notice of it. I learnt that this Chief is supposed to be favourably disposed towards the Turks, as he does not entertain very friendly sentiments with regard to the Sultan of Lahej. An alliance with the Turks might enable him, he doubtless imagines, to hold his own against his more formidable neighbour.

No. 5.

Lord Lyons to Earl Granville.—(Received November 27.)

(No. 25.) *Paris, November* 25, 1872.

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship a copy of a postscript to the private letter from Sir Bartle Frere, of which the previous part forms the first inclosure in my immediately preceding despatch No. 24.

It relates to the possible revival of old Turkish claims on the Arabian sea-board, without as well as within the Red Sea.

I will not fail to take advantage of any means which may be open to me of acquiring information respecting the views of the French and Turkish Governments on this subject.

I have, &c.
(Signed) LYONS.

Inclosure in No. 5.

Sir B. Frere to Lord Lyons.

Paris, November 24, 1872.

My Lord,

AFTER we took leave of your Excellency on Friday, Mr. Badger had a long conversation with the Turkish Ambassador, who spoke with enthusiasm of the Turkish successes in Arabia, and of their flag having once more been hoisted in Yemen. From what he said, coupled with some observations of M. de Rémusat, Mr. Badger inferred that they both contemplated a revival of the obsolete Turkish claims on the whole of the Arabian sea-board.

These claims outside the Red Sea have, in most cases, no better foundation than the investiture of Selim II by a descendant of the Bagdad Khalifahs with the sovereignty of the whole of Arabia. Their revival might appear to the French a convenient mode of diverting Turkish attention from dwelling on loss of influence in other quarters. But

they would be extremely inconvenient in every other point of view, and it would be interesting to know how far the views indicated by the conversation with Mr. Badger have any foundation in a settled purpose of the Turkish Government or have been encouraged by the French Government.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. B. E. FRERE.

No. 6.

Mr. Grant Duff to Mr. Hammond.

India Office, November 26, 1872.

Sir,

I AM directed by the Duke of Argyll to forward, for the information of Earl Granville, copy of a letter from the Resident at Aden, dated 26th October, 1872, respecting the attempt alleged to have been made by the Turkish Pasha of Yemen to induce the Sultan of Lahej to give his allegiance to the Sublime Porte.

I am, &c.
(Signed) M. E. GRANT DUFF.

Inclosure 1 in No. 6.

Brigadier-General Schneider to the Duke of Argyll.

Aden, October 26, 1872.

My Lord Duke,

I DO myself the honour to forward, for your Grace's information, copy of a despatch which I have this day addressed to the Government of Bombay.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. W. SCHNEIDER.

Inclosure 2 in No. 6.

Brigadier-General Schneider to Mr. Gonne.

Aden, October 26, 1872.

Sir,

REFERRING to the matter contained in my letter of the 6th August, 1872, I have the honour to inform Government that the Sultan of Lahej paid me a visit on the 24th instant, and presented a letter received by him through an emissary from Mushir Ahmed Moukhtar, Pasha of Yemen, translation of which is annexed. In this communication the Sultan is invited to give his allegiance to the Sublime Porte and to wait upon the Pasha.

2. It will be in the recollection of Government that Major-General Tremenhere reported in his letter of the 21st May last, he had informed the Sultan of Lahej that, when the Pasha of Yemen addressed him personally, he should be prepared to offer his advice; and this course was approved of in Government Resolution No. 4092 of the 9th July following.

3. I have already mentioned to Government that the Sultan expressed to me the liveliest apprehensions at the proceedings of the Turks in Yemen, and inquired if I could give him any assurance of assistance in case of need.

4. The Sultan having presented the letter above adverted to, I felt no hesitation as to the nature of the advice that the Resident was bound to give. I accordingly suggested to His Highness that he should reply to the Pasha in a friendly and courteous strain and state that he is the ally and stipendiary of the British Government; that Treaty obligations exist between him and that Government; that a copy of the Mushir's communication would be forwarded through the Resident to Government, and that he, the Sultan, did not desire to act without its wishes being known to him.

5. The Sultan of Lahej is entirely averse to coming under the Turkish dominion, as represented by him in a letter forwarded to Government by Major-General Tremenhere on the 21st of May, to which I would draw especial attention; and I beg to state that it is somewhat embarrassing to the Resident that he is in ignorance of the policy proposed to be followed as regards the overtures that were certain to be made, sooner or later,

by the Pasha of Yemen himself to the chieftains of the principalities bordering on Aden for the transfer of their adherence to the Turkish Government.

6. It may be proper if I remind Government that, during the occupation of Yemen by Ibrahim Pasha, the British Government declared, through Lord Palmerston, that it could not "see with indifference any attempt made by Mahomed Ali to invade or conquer the country at or beyond the mouth of the Red Sea;" and, on similar considerations, as regards the Sublime Porte, I can conceive nothing more calculated to lower our prestige as the paramount Power in this locality than to permit the forcible incorporation of the neighbouring States into the Turkish empire—States which have for years looked on us as the arbiter of their acts, and who have been made to feel that we have hitherto been all-powerful.

7. I need scarcely refer to the many Treaties that exist between Government and the independent chieftains in the vicinity of Aden, and to the feeling with which they will regard us, if they are coerced by the Turks against their will, while we, as they would suppose, looked on with indifference or with no power to prevent such a proceeding. It is obvious that the Pasha of Yemen has made his overtures to the Sultan of Lahej as the recognized principal and most influential chief in the lowlands, feeling confident that, if he gives in his adhesion to the Sublime Porte, the other chiefs would follow in his footsteps as a matter of course. I have ascertained that the Howshabee Sheikh replied recently to an emissary that he would wait and see what course the Sultan adopted before replying to the overtures made to him.

8. The compulsory transfer by the Sultan of Lahej and other chiefs of their adherence to another Power would, of necessity, alter our intimate relations with them. At present the British Government is respected and feared by these chiefs. They are all more or less subsidized by Government and look to it for advice and assistance through the Resident, and they consult his wishes and generally abide by his suggestions; but if they are coerced and incorporated with the Turkish possessions in Yemen, Government can no longer be regarded as the paramount authority here, and difficulties and complications will probably follow, the result of which it is now impossible to see. The Turks would control the whole land around Aden up to the Owlakee country including the ports of Shugra and Howr. When convenient the chiefs would declare that they can only do so and so with the permission of the Turks, or that they adopted a particular line of conduct under their instructions, but supplies from the interior, absolutely necessary to our existence here, may even be interrupted, and the great trade that is carried on between the neighbouring States in the interior and Aden may, by prohibitive transit duties, be diverted to other parts in the Red Sea.

9. It appears to me that, for British interests, the policy enunciated by Lord Palmerston cannot be too rigidly insisted on; and that it is only by so doing that we can maintain our prestige and influence in those parts. Diplomatic efforts will, I trust, be made to restrain the Turks from descending the "Jabal" or highland country into the "Tehama" or lowland country north of the Peninsula of Aden.

10. I would wish to add that, in 1838-39, Lord Palmerston stated, for the guidance of the Government of India, that it was not to be restrained by any considerations of Mahomed Ali in its intercourse with the chiefs of the interior and with the Sultan of Sana, since he had no right whatever over the countries governed by these Rulers. And Mahomed Ali, before withdrawing from Yemen under pressure from the British Government, admitted that the chain of mountains separating the lowlands from the highlands was the mutual boundary.

11. A copy of this letter and its annexment will be forwarded to Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India by the Bombay mail which may be expected to-morrow.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. W. SCHNEIDER.

Inclosure 3 in No. 6.

The Mushir Sayyid Ahmed Mookhtar, Pasha of Yemen, to Sheikh Fadhl bin Mohsin, the Abdalee.

(Translation.)

Sana, 8 Rejib, 1289 (*August* 29, 1872).

(After compliments.)

We write you this letter after our arrival, by command of our Lord the Sultan of Al-Islam, the devout follower of the religion of the two Holy Cities, the Monarch of the Kingdom of the East and West, may his magnificence be perpetual, and may the monument of his glory be raised aloft, and the full moon of his life, in the land of

Yemen, to resuscitate the kingdom which his ancestors the Sultans founded, by the revival of religion and the promulgation of the ordinances of the Chief of Prophets, and thanks be to God, it has taken place according to the desire of the Sultan, by the assistance and grace of God, without causing us any trouble, nor has any trouble whatsoever befallen the people of the country; by the favour of God, indeed, the intention of our Sultan has been accomplished. May his glory continue! And we have not turned our attention to the ordering of your territories till the rest of the country should have been completely settled from your boundaries to above Sana. However, we have long known the way in which you preserve yourself and your country from workers of sedition, and for that we thank you much, and how excellent is he who, in times of anarchy, preserves his dignity! But, to-day, God has graciously favoured the Sublime Government. Praise be to Him for it. And our Lord the Sultan of Al-Islam has turned his attention to the districts of Yemen, and you are (praised be God) one of the members of the Government and of the people who serve it and your country, by the favour of God, one of those whose people come within the circle of its attention. We have also heard that you are afraid, and we are very much astonished at you. How is it you are afraid when nothing has previously been done by you to us? But we have granted safety to those near and to those distant, to the freemen and to the bondsmen, and, by the favour of God, nothing unpleasant has been caused by us to any one. Every one knows this; then wherefore do you fear, or why should one like you be afraid? On this account your fear is a wonderful thing. But the Sheikh Mohideen-al-Akel visits us constantly, and is acquainted with our character and our mode of dealing with people, with our clemency and our justice. And if there should be anything against you in times past, for you there is now no chiding, and should there be anything against you of a later date still there is nothing which can be called a fault. So you have, up to the present time, a clean page; and we look forward to your coming to us that you may receive the good things and the high honour you deserve, and trust you will accompany the messenger now sent to our presence, and we promise you safety under the security of God, of His Prophet, of the Sultan of Al-Islam, and of ourselves, to come with him and return with him. So trust in this, and trust in God, and listen to the counsels of the messenger sent to you, for we have heard of the friendship between you and him. Upon you be peace.

No. 7.

Sir B. Frere to Earl Granville.—(Received January 6, 1873.)

Cairo, December 24, 1872.

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship a Memorandum by Mr. Badger, of a conversation which he held at the British Embassy at Paris with M. de Rémusat and the Turkish Ambassador on the subject of the claims of Turkey to the sovereignty of the Arabian seaboard.

I have also caused a copy of this Memorandum to be forwarded to the India Office, for the information of his Grace the Duke of Argyll.

I have, &c.

(Signed) H. B. E. FRERE.

Inclosure in No. 7.

Memorandum by Mr. Badger of a Conversation with M. de Rémusat and Server Pasha, the Ottoman Ambassador to France, at the British Embassy, Paris, on the 23rd November, 1872.

Alexandria, December 14, 1872.

AFTER conversing with M. de Rémusat for some time about Zanzibar and the East African Slave Trade, his Excellency inquired whether Zanzibar was not, until very recently, a dependency of Muscat (or Oman), adding "Do not the Turks claim Oman?" I replied that they had not done so yet, but, seeing that they appeared disposed to revive some obsolete claims to the whole of Arabia, and had actually taken steps to enforce them in Yemen and Nejd, I should not be surprised at their doing so. "But," rejoined the Minister, "have not the Turks held all the shores of the Red Sea for a very long period?"

In answering this query, I pointed out the limits of their jurisdiction on the Eastern and Western Coasts of the Red Sea, and the only localities to which they could legitimately advance any claim whatever.

I took some pains to explain to his Excellency the preposterous ground upon which these extravagant pretensions of the Turks were founded.

Later in the evening I conversed with Server Pasha, who manifested considerable interest in Sir Bartle Frere's mission for the suppression of the Slave Trade on the East Coast of Africa.

After I had described to him the ramifications of the traffic, especially in the direction of the north-east coast of Arabia and the Persian Gulf, his Excellency remarked, with something like enthusiasm, that the Turkish flag had recently been re-hoisted in those parts (he evidently referred to Yemen and Nejdy, and that his Government had established a line of steamers between Suez and the Persian Gulf. He did not seem to know all the ports at which the steamers touched; but, when I mentioned Makulla, he said, "Yes, that is one of our principal stations."

I infer, from the drift of the foregoing remarks, that the Porte has signified to France its claim to the entire seaboard of Arabia, extending from Suez to the head of the Persian Gulf, and therefore including Oman, or the Principality of Muscat.

In confirmation of this inference, I adduce the following extract from a letter which I received to-day from Mr. Frederick Ayrton, for many years resident at Cairo, and most intimately acquainted with the principal officials, both Turkish and Egyptian, in Egypt:—

"There was an idea floating about in Cairo that Muscat ought to belong to Turkey. It was a very intelligent Turk who was talking to me on the subject. He asked me if Muscat was not a fertile province: the number of its inhabitants; if they were warlike, and whether the Turkish troops on the Arabian coast of the Persian Gulf could not be maintained from it. Though intelligent, the person I allude to was not of influence, but he was probably recurring to the subject as he had heard it discussed by others."

Mr. Ayrton left Cairo for his health about three months ago.

The claim of Turkey to the Provinces of Yemen and Nejd, and to the intervening maritime provinces, including Oman, is founded on the fiction that a lineal descendant of the Abbasside Khalifahs of Baghdad invested Selim II, after his conquest of Egypt and his successes on the shores of the Red Sea, with the sovereignty over the whole of Arabia. It is indisputable however that, during the existence of that dynasty, nearly the whole of Arabia had revolted from its authority, and set up native principalities and chiefdoms, which have maintained their independence until the recent attempts made by the Turks to subjugate them in Yemen and Nejd. All that they can fairly lay claim to is the seaboard of Arabia from Suez to Mokha, which they have held, with occasional intermissions, since their first conquests in the Red Sea in the sixteenth century.

As regards Oman, the native annals of that province incontestably prove that it became independent of the Baghdad Khalifate in the tenth century, and has never since been subject to foreign rule, except for a short time to the Persians. The same is true of the Arab Chiefdoms in the Persian Gulf, whose history is intimately connected with that of Oman. Moreover, it is indisputable, that neither the Turks nor the Egyptians have ever exercised any jurisdiction over the territories referred to; and that the Turks themselves, in 1847, virtually admitted the independence of the Imams and other Arab Chiefdoms in the Persian Gulf, is proved by the following extract from a Vizirial letter addressed to the Pasha of Baghdad, on the subject of the Slave Trade, as given in Aitchison's Treaties, vol. vii, page 192:—

"Votre Excellence sait qu'il y a dans ces environs-là des Gouvernements et des Imâms indépendants, et cela étant, les châtiments dont il s'agit ne peuvent pas être appliqués à leurs bâtiments."

But preposterous as these claims may be, there is every probability that the Turks will lose no time in endeavouring to enforce them. The result, even of partial success, would be to introduce a fresh element of complication and strife into the Eastern seas, without any corresponding advantage, either to the Turks themselves, to the threatened maritime native States and Chiefdoms, or to the British Government.

One obstacle in their way is the fact that the British Government has, by Treaty engagements with several of those Chiefdoms, virtually recognized their independence, and I submit that it would be desirable, in order to prevent further mischievous aggression on the part of the Turks, to embrace the entire coast in a similar bond, from the straits of Bab-el-Mandeb to the southern limit of the territories of Muscat.

The only breaks in the circuit are—

1. The seaboard from the Arabian mainland, near Perim, to the maritime boundary

of our ally the Sultan of Lahej, which extends only a short distance, if at all, to the north of Little Aden, now British territory. This coast belongs to the Subbeihah, a wild Arab tribe, sub-divided into several clans. The only spot within these limits which is likely to attract the attention or to excite the cupidity of any foreign Power is an inlet to the south-east of Perim, where water is procurable. Very little use could be made of it, but its seizure by the Turks might encourage them to make further encroachments. It would not be difficult for the Political Resident at Aden to enter into some amicable arrangement with the Subbeihah, whereby their seaboard might ostensibly be secured from any such aggression.

2. Towards the east and north-east of Aden, we have Treaties with the Foodhlee and Owlakee tribes. Beyond their limits, northward, is the port of Makulla, and, farther north still, the port of Shehr. I am not aware that we have entered into any Treaty engagements with either, and I judge it desirable that we should do so without delay. The Turks attempted to seize Makulla in 1849, but were repulsed; but I should not be surprised at their taking the place any day. Both Makulla and Shehr are trade marts, largely frequented by dhows plying between the Persian Gulf and the East Coast of Africa. As it is also highly probable that Arab slavers often anchor there for water and provisions, taking advantage of any offer for the slaves which they may have on board, we should be fully justified in endeavouring to secure their engagement by Treaty, to forbid the import of slaves within their respective territories, and otherwise to discountenance the traffic. Such a Treaty would be a safeguard to themselves against foreign aggressions, and serve also to place another impediment in the way of the dhows engaged in transporting slaves from the Zanzibar dominions.

Our Government has also been apprised by the Political Resident at Aden of the claim which has been lately put forward by the Viceroy of Egypt, under the avowed authority of the Porte, to the entire seaboard of the western shore of the Red Sea, and to the littoral beyond, as far as Cape Guardafui, including Berberah and several other independent Somalee chiefdoms. This claim was also urged a few years ago, as we were informed at Rome by the Italian Minister for Foreign Affairs, when some Italian agents purchased Assab Bay, a little to the north of Perim, from the local native Chiefs. The Porte protested against the transaction, and the place was eventually abandoned, having been found unfit for a penal settlement, for which object it seems to have been secured in the first instance. M. Visconti Venosta did not state whether the objections raised by the Porte had anything to do with its abandonment.

The Turks (or Egyptians) have held the western shore of the Red Sea, as far as Massowah, since the reign of Selim II; but their jurisdiction was until very recently restricted to the island. Southward of that point the only localities to which they can put forward the slightest shadow of a claim are Tajurrah and Zailah, which have paid tribute to the Governor of Mokha for some time past; nevertheless, their being tributary did not prevent the Chief of Tajurrah from selling to the British two or three small islands in the vicinity of that port. Beyond Zailah, neither the Turks nor the Egyptians have any claim whatever, either to tribute, proprietorship, or jurisdiction, and the fact that the British Government has had Treaty engagements with the Somalee Chiefs for some years past, virtually secures their independence.

(Signed) GEORGE PERCY BADGER.

No. 8.

Mr. Merivale to Mr. Hammond.

(Confidential.) *India Office, January 6, 1873.*

Sir,

I AM directed by the Duke of Argyll to transmit to you the inclosed copy of a telegram just received from Sir Bartle Frere relative to the Turkish operations against the tribes in the immediate vicinity of Aden, together with one on the same subject, received on the 3rd instant, from the Resident at Aden, and the replies sent to those communications; and I am to request that, in laying these papers before Earl Granville, you will move him to cause instructions to be conveyed to Sir Henry Elliot promptly to make to the Government of the Sublime Porte the representations needful to put a stop to proceedings so injurious to the interests of Her Majesty's possessions at Aden.

I am, &c.

(Signed) HERMAN MERIVALE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 8.

Sir Bartle Frere to the Duke of Argyll.

Aden, January 5, 1872.

(Telegraphic.)

TURKISH (movements?) against tribes round Aden very serious. Mushir threatens Lahej, whence Aden draws supplies. Unless this be promptly stopped Mushir will hold power to starve our garrison or quadruple our commissariat expenses.

Inclosure 2 in No. 8.

Brigadier-General Schneider to the Duke of Argyll.

Aden, January 3, 1873.

(Telegraphic.)

THE Sultan of Lahej has just visited me, expecting a hostile movement of the Turks against his country. He claims our protection.

I request instructions by telegraph to my letter of 26th October last, addressed to Bombay Government, copy of which was forwarded to your Grace.

Inclosure 3 in No. 8.

Mr. Merivale to Brigadier-General Schneider.

Aden, January 6, 1873.

(Telegraphic.)

YOURS of 3rd and Sir Bartle Frere's of 5th received. Immediate attention shall be paid.

Inclosure 4 in No. 8.

Mr. Merivale to Mr. Gonne.

Aden, January 6, 1873.

(Telegraphic.)

FOLLOWING telegram received from Sir Bartle Frere, at Aden:—

[See Inclosure 1 in No. 8.]

No. 9.

Mr. Merivale to Mr. Hammond.—(Received January 9.)

India Office, January 8, 1873.

Sir,

WITH reference to my letter of 6th instant, respecting the proceedings of the Turks in the neighbourhood of Aden, I am directed by the Duke of Argyll to forward, for the information of Earl Granville, copy of a telegram from the Viceroy of India, dated 6th January, 1873, on the same subject; and I am to state that his Grace will be glad to learn that the representations which have doubtless been made by his Lordship's direction to the Ottoman Porte, with a view of putting a stop to the proceedings of the Turks against the tribes in the vicinity of Aden, have been successful.

I am, &c.

(Signed) HERMAN MERIVALE.

Inclosure in No. 9.

The Viceroy of India to the Duke of Argyll.

Calcutta, January 6, 1873.

(Telegraphic.)

BOMBAY Government telegraphs that Sultan of Lahej had just visited Aden Resident, expecting hostile movement of Turks against his country. He claims British protection.

We have instructed Resident to address Pasha at once, calling on him to suspend all demonstration or action against chiefs and tribes round Aden with whom we have political relations, pending instructions from his Government.

Resident has been told to inform Pasha that such (proceedings?) are likely to raise serious questions between England and Ottoman Porte, and if persevered in will be regarded as an unfriendly action on Pasha's part towards Great Britain. Should Pasha persevere I have desired Resident to suggest by telegraph whether any, and what, moral and material support can be given to Lahej Sultan to enable him to hold his own until question is diplomatically settled.

I invite attention to Lord Palmerston's despatch of 24th May, 1838, to Consul at Alexandria, regarding the attempt made by Ottoman Pasha of Mocha to conquer territory lying at or beyond mouth of Red Sea.*

Pray move Foreign Office to inform Ottoman Porte that the interference of Pasha with tribes round Aden in relations with us cannot be permitted, and beg Ottoman Porte to issue immediate instructions to restrain Pasha from the course he has adopted.

No. 10.

Earl Granville to Sir H. Elliot.

Foreign Office, January 11, 1873, 12·50 P.M.

(Telegraphic.)

THE Sultan of Lahej has expressed to the Resident at Aden great apprehension of a hostile movement against him on the part of the Turkish forces in that quarter. Any such movement would be viewed in a serious light by Her Majesty's Government, as calculated to interfere with the British territory of Aden; and you will inquire whether the movement has been sanctioned by the Porte: but, in any case, you will request the Porte to send immediate orders to its authorities to suspend hostile operations in that quarter against any of the Arab Chiefs, which, as calculated to disturb the position we hold at Aden, would certainly produce a bad impression in England, no less than in India.

No. 11.

Sir H. Elliot to Earl Granville.—(Received January 13.)

Constantinople, January 13, 1873.

(Telegraphic.)

NO operations have been or will be commenced against the Lahej without orders from the Porte, which will do nothing without communicating with Her Majesty's Government.

Lahej is considered here as forming a part of Yemen, and the Governor of that province reports that Chief having attacked and plundered a neighbouring Chieftain who recognized Sultan's authority, his aggression ought not to pass unpunished.

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* *Viscount Palmerston to Colonel Campbell.*

Foreign Office, May 24, 1838.

Sir,

I HAVE received and laid before the Queen your despatches to No. 26 inclusive.

With reference to the letter from Mehemet Ali to Boghos Bey of the 28th of March, of which a translation was inclosed in your despatch No. 21, I have to instruct you to remind Boghos Bey of the declaration already made by Her Majesty's Government through you, as reported in your despatch No. 51 of last year, that Great Britain could not see with indifference any attempt made by Mehemet Ali to invade or conquer the country lying at and beyond the mouth of the Red Sea.

With respect to the occupation of the Yemen by the Egyptian troops, you will say that the British Government have no desire that such occupation should continue; but, on the contrary, would be better pleased by any overt act which should show that the Pasha is engaged in improving the administration of the provinces entitled to his government, instead of employing the energies of his mind, and the resources of the countries he governs, in aggressive expeditions against neighbouring districts.

I am, &c.,

(Signed) PALMERSTON.

No. 12.

Sir H. Elliot to Earl Granville.—(Received January 20.)

(No. 1.) *Constantinople, January 6, 1873.*

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch No. 6 of the 5th ultimo, transmitting, for my opinion, a despatch from Lord Lyons, inclosing the extract of a letter from Sir Bartle Frere in regard to the supposed revival of the claims of Turkey to the seaboard of Arabia beyond the Red Sea.

The language in which the Ottoman Ambassador at Paris appears to have spoken of the success of the Sultan's arms in Arabia may, I believe, safely be attributed to a desire of exalting the greatness of his country.

I have spoken on the subject to Khalil Pasha, who assured me that the idea of re-establishing the Turkish authority beyond the Red Sea had, to the best of his belief, never been seriously entertained by any one; and he could, at least, declare that such a thing was far removed from the intentions of the Sultan's present advisers.

He was, himself, very much adverse to these distant expeditions, which cost money and men that could ill be spared; but, while saying this, he avowed himself a strong advocate for the maintenance of the Sultan's authority in the Hedjaz, in case of its being at any time necessary to withstand schemes of ambition which might be entertained by the Khedive of Egypt.

His Excellency touched upon the question which remains still unsettled with the French Government in reference to Sheik Said, and it is perhaps probable that M. de Rémusat had this matter also in his mind when he implied that the Porte was reviving obsolete claims.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

No. 13.

Lord Lyons to Earl Granville.—(Received January 21.)

(Private.) *Paris, January 19, 1873.*

My dear Granville,

I RECEIVED the inclosed last night from Sir Bartle Frere under flying seal. He was already a little alarmed about the progress of Turkey on the Arabian seaboard, by what the Turkish Ambassador said here to Mr. Badger. I sent you a despatch about it (No. 25) on the 25th of November. Among the despatches from Elliot which I forward to you to-day is one reporting a conversation with Khalil Pasha, whose language is very inconsistent with what Sir Bartle Frere appears to have seen.

Yours, &c.

(Signed) LYONS.

No. 14.

Sir B. Frere to Earl Granville.—(Received January 21.)

(Private.) *Aden, January 4, 1873.*

Dear Lord Granville,

I HOPE you will not think I have gone too far in venturing to write to Sir H. Elliot the inclosed account of affairs here, but it seems to me a state of things too grave to lose a moment in letting him know what I have seen and heard; and if the Turkish flag is to dominate on this coast, you will have to begin all your work for repressing the Slave Trade over again.

I have not a moment by this mail; but you will be surprised to find, from what I hope to send you in a few days, how suddenly the trade has revived and how intimately the whole question is connected with the state of our relations with Turkey.

Believe me, &c.

(Signed) H. B. E. FRERE.

Inclosure in No. 14.

Sir B. Frere to Sir H. Elliot.

(Private.) *Aden, January 2, 1873.*

Dear Sir Henry,

I AM sure you will excuse my writing to you when it seems to me your action may be of vital consequence to India, and to our China and Australian Commerce.

I had heard something of Turkish aggressions on these coasts; but I was to-day astonished to learn from the Resident here, Brigadier-General Schneider, that a Turkish Mushir, now fully established at Sana, 150 miles north from this, has ventured, in writing, to summon the Chief of Lahej, a stipendiary of ours, to attend his camp and submit himself formally to the Turkish Government; and I was, if possible, more astonished to find that this had been very fully reported by the Resident here on the 26th of October, and that he had not yet received instructions how to act.

The inclosed sketch will explain what Lahej is to Aden. Only fifteen miles from the garrison outposts and the chief town of the low country on the mainland, it commands the district whence Aden draws its chief supplies of grain and vegetables, forage and firewood, meat and fresh water, without all which Aden will be, not absolutely untenable, but, as in a state of siege, only to be fed badly and with difficulty, and at vastly increased expense by importation from beyond sea. It is not necessary for the Turks to commit any act of overt hostility, they have simply to send a few thousand men to "garrison" Lahej, and to eat up the country, and they may starve our garrison here, which keeps the key of these seas, and one of the most important coaling depôts in the world. They will not need disciplined troops. Levies of surrounding Arab tribes would do the work far better and cheaper.

The Sultan, as he calls himself, of Lahej, is chief of the Abdalee tribe, and for the services of his people and country in feeding Aden, and protecting the roads leading to it, he receives a stipend of £ a month from us. He and his people are as much our servants as your French cook or Italian gardener are yours, and the Porte has by right or prescription even less authority over them, for it has absolutely none at all.

In his letter to this Chief, in August last, the Mushir offers no excuse for his summons; but writes a long rigmarole to the effect that the Sultan has now resumed his rights divine in these parts (where for generations no Turk has shown his face), and it is the Lahej Chief's duty to submit himself to the Khalifah.

It is difficult to imagine any parallel aggression on us, by so friendly a Power, short of the Dutch occupying the Isle of Thanet, because their flag once flew in the Medway, so grotesquely unjustifiable, or so little permissible by us.

I cannot explain the fact that the Resident here, after reporting this and several aggressive moves of the Mushir in the same direction, is still without instructions, save an injunction to his predecessor on one of his earlier reports some months ago to be careful not to commit himself, without further orders, to any counter-action. I can only suppose either that the facts are not admitted at Constantinople, or that their importance is not fully appreciated, at London or in India.

As to the facts, I will only say that I have stated them, as I have verified them from the Resident's records by personal inquiry on the spot. The Chief came in to-day to see the Resident, at whose house I was staying, in a perfect panic. His next neighbour, the Chief of the Howshebee, with whom, of course, he has a chronic feud, had, after months of waiting for some sign from the British Government, gone to Sana to tender his submission to the Mushir. The Lahej Chief knows that his turn comes next, and he hears that several hundred camels are being collected, beyond his border, for a descent into the low country of Lahej, commonly called El-Hautah. No notice has been taken by the Mushir of his reply to the former summons when he said in effect that he is our servant and stipendiary and must look to us for instructions. He now asks the Resident, as effective resistance by himself is out of the question, is he to submit, or fly; or will he be protected by us?

Before telegrams were invented the Resident would of necessity have been free to act for the best, as far as his resources here went, on his own judgment and responsibility; and any British officer entrusted with the command of this place (and we have an excellent officer here now) would have known how to act very effectively for the protection of his charge. Now his hands are tied by the necessity of obeying express instructions not to act without orders. These, I hope, he will receive by telegram, probably after I am on my way to East Africa. Meantime, I am sure you will pardon me, as an old Governor of Bombay, for explaining the position in which I find the most important of all our outlying Indian possessions, and the key of our overland route. I

cannot say more as to my sense of the gravity of the case than by assuring you that when I was at Bombay nothing short of something threatening Bombay itself would have given me a greater feeling of insecurity.

Not knowing what has passed between you and the Turkish Government on the subject, I do not venture to offer any suggestion, but I am convinced that, if we are to retain Aden (and that is simply in my opinion a matter of prime necessity to our every interest in India, China, and Australia), no language can be too plain and firm, or action too prompt to assure the Turks that they must not attempt to extend their authority into the low country which supplies Aden. That authority may be an excellent exchange for a chronic state of inter-tribal feuds elsewhere. But we have already done that work here, and if we let the Turks do it over again, in our granary and garden, we had better at once make Aden over to their keeping or let her scramble for it with the other Powers who covet it.

I purpose letting Lord Granville and the India Government know what I have ventured to say to you, and feel sure your Excellency will pardon the freedom with which I have written on what I cannot but think a very important and pressing matter.

Believe me, &c.

(Signed) H. B. E. FRERE.

No. 15.

Earl Granville to Sir H. Elliot.

(No. 15.) *Foreign Office, January 23, 1873.*

Sir,

I HAVE received your telegram of the 12th instant, reporting that no operations have been or will be commenced against the Sultan of Lahej without orders from the Porte, which will do nothing without communicating with Her Majesty's Government.

I take advantage of the present opportunity to send you a copy of a despatch, dated October 26, from the Resident at Aden to the Bombay Government, which was communicated to me by the Secretary of State for India on the 26th November; and with it I inclose a copy of a memorandum respecting the right of the Porte over Yemen, and respecting other matters, which was prepared some years ago.

I await the communication which you lead me to expect may be made by the Porte, before going into any details on this matter; but in the meanwhile you will make it clear to the Porte that as the safety, no less than the comfort, of the British position at Aden would be seriously impaired by any interference on the part of the Turkish authorities in that quarter with Rulers friendly to Great Britain, Her Majesty's Government would view seriously any proceedings calculated to disturb the country in the neighbourhood of that place.

I am, &c.

(Signed) GRANVILLE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 15.

Mr. Grant Duff to Mr. Hammond, November 26, 1872.

[See No. 6.]

Inclosure 2 in No. 15.

Abstract of Correspondence and Memorandum respecting the Yemen. (*November* 14, 1843.)

Mr. Barker, Nos. 69, 70, 1834; 1832. No. 23, 1843. January 1, 1834.

IN the month of June 1832 a revolt broke out at Djidda amongst a body of Albanian troops belonging to the Pasha of Egypt, and under the command of Tooreh Bilmer, one of his Mamelukes favourites. Achmet Pasha was directed to put down the revolt, but at his approach Tooreh Bilmer sailed to the south, took possession of Mocha after a very slight resistance on the part of the adherents of the Imam of Sana, and thence proceeded to invade the other parts of the Yemen, whose Sovereign, the Imam Mukdee of Sana had lately died, leaving two brothers, who were at this time contesting the Throne.

Early in the year 1833 Mehemet Ali intimated to Colonel Campbell, then the British Consul-General in Egypt, that it was his desire to send an expedition to Mocha so soon as peace was finally re-established between himself and the Sultan, for the purpose of chastising Tooreh Bilmer and his rebellious followers, then in possession of a great portion of the Yemen, and preparing to march against Sana. The Pasha concluded by asking for the opinion of the British Government with reference to such an expedition. Colonel Campbell, April 16, 1833.

Colonel Campbell, in communicating this request of Mehemet Ali to his own Government, stated his opinion that should the Pasha, in carrying out the objects above stated, succeed in conquering the Yemen, he would probably wish to attach it to the neighbouring pashalick of the Hedjaz, with which pashalick Ibrahim Pasha had been invested by the Sultan after his conquest of the Wahabees. Mehemet Ali had already, by his possession of Egypt, possession of nearly the whole of the western shore of the Red Sea, and by that of the Hedjaz all the eastern coast belonged to him except the small district around Mocha, which it therefore became an object of importance for him to acquire, and thus place both shores of the Red Sea under one Power.

The only relations at this time existing between the Government of India and the districts of Arabia now referred to, were those of commercial intercourse. The Indian Government had a native agent at Mocha, and had concluded an agreement with the late Imam of Sana,* fixing the duty to be charged upon British imports and exports as regarded his dominions, and securing protection for British subjects. If therefore the object of the Pasha was, as it professed to be, the destruction of the rebel chief and the protection of the Imam, the position of the Indian Government as regarded this portion of Arabia remain unaltered; but, in the event of the Pasha appropriating the territory thus brought within his power, it was not likely that he would prove less friendly to intercourse with India than the former possessor, the Imam of Sana, had been. Colonel Campbell was accordingly instructed to give a favourable answer to the inquiry of Mehemet Ali as to the sentiments of the British Government concerning his proposed expedition. The Pasha had, however, not waited for the answer of the British Government; the expedition had proceeded; and on Colonel Campbell communicating the answer he had been instructed to deliver, the Pasha excused himself by stating that he had been forced into immediate action by acts of aggression which the rebels had committed on the Hedjaz; and in consequence of their attacks on his commerce in the Red Sea. He added that the Yemen was considered by the Sultan as forming a part of the pashalick of the Hedjaz; and that he would take care that the possession of Mocha by him, Mehemet Ali, should not in any way militate against British interests, or against any agreement existing between the Government of India and the late Imam of Sana; thus announcing his intention to take possession of the Yemen. India Board; August 18, 1833. To Colonel Campbell, No. 15; Sept. 3, 1833. Colonel Campbell, No. 65; Oct. 27, 1833.

At the close of the year 1833 Tooreh Bilmer had lost all the towns on the coast of Yemen, and finally took up his quarters in Mocha, from which town he was driven out, in the month of December of that year, by the Assir Arabs. Colonel Campbell, No. 6; Feb. 22, 1834.

The Egyptian army, now commanded by Ibrahim Pasha the younger, a nephew of Mehemet Ali, continued during the years 1835 and 1836 its operations in the Yemen, in the course of which Ibrahim Pasha made himself master of Mocha, and of most of the seaport towns. The principal check experienced by him was from the Assir Arabs; a Bedouin tribe inhabiting the country between Mecca and Sana. The Egyptian troops were frequently obliged to retire before them, and were defeated on several occasions with considerable loss; while, however, the military operations of the Egyptian army were suspended for want of supplies, the Pasha's troops were in actual possession of the line of coast, and garrisoned the chief towns and ports on the eastern coast of the Red Sea, thus commanding the commerce of the Yemen. Colonel Campbell, Private; Nov. 11, 1834. Colonel Campbell, No. 2; Jan. 6, 1835. Colonel Campbell, No. 21; July 24, 1835. Vice-Consul Stone, No. 4; March 22, 1836. Colonel Campbell, No. 44; Nov. 9, 1836. Captain Mackenzie's Reports; June 1, 1837. Colonel Campbell, No. 65; Oct. 23, 1837.

Information from various quarters meanwhile reached the British Government that it was the intention of Mehemet Ali, when he had achieved the subjugation of the Assir tribe, to send a force to occupy the town and fort of Aden, at that time under the rule of a marauding Sheikh, who could make little or no resistance to his troops. Colonel Campbell, No. 63; Nov. 1, 1837.

In consequence of these reports, and of rumours of ulterior designs of Mehemet Ali upon Muscat and Bagdad, in the month of August 1837, Colonel Campbell was instructed to take an early opportunity to mention to the Pasha that reports had reached Her Majesty's Government that His Highness was about to send a force to take possession of To Colonel Campbell, No. 15; August 4, 1837. To Colonel Campbell, No. 25; Dec. 9, 1837.

* Concluded by Captain Bruce, then Government Agent at Mocha on the 15th January, 1821.—Captain Haines to Bombay Government, June 27, 1842.

the shores at the entrance and on the outside of the Red Sea; and that movements of his troops were reported which would seem to indicate intentions on his part to extend his authority towards the Persian Gulf and the pashalick of Bagdad. Colonel Campbell was further directed to intimate to the Pasha that such movements of his forces, or the execution of such intentions, would not be well looked upon in England or in India, and might give rise to discussions between him and the British Government.

Colonel Campbell communicated accordingly with Boghos Bey, the Pasha's Minister, who unequivocally denied the existence of any intentions on the part of his master of the nature attributed to him.

It is here necessary to refer to the proceedings of the Indian authorities, with whose operations on the southern coast of Arabia the plans of the Pasha above adverted to were shortly to come into collision.

In March 1837 the Government of Bombay received information from the Superintendent of the Indian navy, from which it appeared that both the Arabian and Abyssinian coasts of the Gulf of Aden were becoming very unsafe from the depredations committed on trading vessels; and that the Sultan of Aden had shown himself to be little better than a common marauder, permitting the plunder of ships driven on the coast, and, in some cases, sharing the profits of these outrages.

A case occurred in January 1837 which called for immediate steps on the part of the Indian Government to put a stop to this system. A Madras ship, the "Doria Dowlut," sailing under British colours, being wrecked on the coast of Aden, was plundered by the inhabitants of the town and the crew shamefully ill treated.

The Government of Bombay, on being made acquainted with this case, brought the facts of it to the knowledge of the Indian Government, requesting permission to call upon the Sultan of Aden for satisfaction for this outrage, and, in the event of its not being conceded, to enforce the demand for redress. The Government of Bombay subsequently followed this up by a proposal to the Court of Directors in London that they should be allowed immediately to take possession of the port of Aden as a compensation for the insults offered by its ruler to the British flag.

Other reasons combined with the necessity of obtaining reparation for the outrage on the "Doria Dowlut," to make the possession of Aden by the Indian Government at this time desirable. The establishment of a monthly communication by steam with the Red Sea rendered it necessary to have a British station on the coast of Arabia, and the port of Aden offered great advantages as a depôt for coals, and as a naval and commercial station.

The Governor-General of India, however, was of opinion that satisfaction should, in the first instance, be demanded of the Sultan of Aden for the outrage on the "Doria Dowlut;" and that, if that satisfaction were granted, some amicable arrangement might be made with him for the occupation of that port as a depôt for coals and harbour for shelter.

In compliance with this opinion of the Governor-General, Captain Haines of the Indian navy was directed to proceed to Aden for the purpose of carrying out the objects desired.

In consequence of a communication from Captain Haines that, in his opinion, the Sultan of Aden would willingly, and, on very favourable terms, make the place over to the British Government, the Governor of Bombay extended Captain Haines' instructions by directing him to enter into terms with the Sultan for that purpose, subject to the confirmation of Government.

Captain Haines proceeded on his mission, and having completed its first object, namely, reparation in the case of the "Doria Dowlut," commenced a negotiation for the transfer of Aden to the British Government upon the payment of a certain sum of money.

After a short delay, the Sultan made under his seal a formal cession of the town and promontory of Aden. Some difficulty arose as to the sum to be paid in compensation; but subsequently the Sultan of Aden communicated verbally to Captain Haines that the sum was to be 8,700 dollars annually.

It only remained for Captain Haines to deliver to the Sultan of Aden his bond for the performance on the part of his Government of the terms of the agreement, and for this purpose a meeting was arranged. Captain Haines, however, received private information that it was intended to seize him and all the papers connected with his mission at the place of meeting, and therefore instead of attending the meeting wrote to the Sultan of Aden and to his son Hamed, reproaching them for their treachery, and acquainting them that he was on the point of departure for Bombay, to report these events to his Government, and reminding them that he possessed the bond, under the Sultan's seal and signature, for the transfer of the land and harbours required.

Captain Haines, No. 51; Sept. 23, 1837.

Minute by Governor of Bombay, Mar. 27, 1834.

Superintendent of Indian Navy to Bombay Government; July 31, 1837.

Colonel Campbell, No. 74; Dec. 14, 1837;

Minute by Governor of Bombay; Aug. 14, 1837.

Secretary to Bombay Government to Secretary to Indian Government; Sept. 15, 1837.

Bombay Government to Court of Directors; Sept. 26, 1837.

Minute by Governor of Bombay; Sept. 23, 1837.

Indian Government to Bombay Government; Oct. 16, 1837.

Bombay Government to Superintendent of Indian Navy; Nov. 27, 1837.

Minute by Governor of Bombay; Mar. 26, 1838.

Captain Haines to Superintendent of Indian Navy; Jan. 20, 1838.

Captain Haines to Superintendent of the Indian Navy; Jan. 30, 1838.

Captain Haines, in order to avoid the chance of a collision with the Egyptian authorities, at this time engaged in operations in the Yemen, communicated by letter with Ibrahim Pasha, the younger, notifying that he had obtained the transfer, and was about to go to Bombay to submit it for the approbation of his superior officers.

A copy of Captain Haines' letter was sent by Ibrahim Pasha to Mehemet Ali in a letter in which Aden was described as "une partie des pays dépendans d'Aden, et comprise dans ceux du Hadjarie récemment soumis au Gouvernement de votre Altesse."

Mehemet Ali, on the receipt of this communication, instructed Boghos Bey to request an explanation upon this subject from Colonel Campbell, reminding him that the Viceroy had obtained the consent of the British Government, before he had undertaken his expedition into the Yemen, but that now, if the English were determined to rule these countries, he would remove his army. In communicating these sentiments of Mehemet Ali to Colonel Campbell, Boghos Bey added that, in his opinion, Aden was under the rule of the Imam of Sana, but that, if it could be proved that it was not so dependent, the Pasha would contribute all in his power to confirm its cession.

Subsequently, a letter from Mehemet Ali to Boghos Bey was communicated by the latter to Colonel Campbell, in the course of which letter, after repeating that he had obtained the consent of the British Government to his Yemen expedition, he offered, if Aden were required by the British only as a coal depôt, to insure it to them for that purpose, after he had accomplished the subjugation of the country in which it was situated ("après qu'on se rendra maître de ce pays"). Mehemet Ali concluded this letter by stating that he would wait two months before ordering the retreat or advance of his army in the Yemen, in order to enable Colonel Campbell to receive instructions from England.

It is to be observed, with reference to this letter of the Pasha, that it was not true that he had obtained the consent of the British Government to his expedition into the Yemen, prior to undertaking it. It was true, as has been already seen, that in the year 1833 he had acquainted the British Government that he wished to send a force to Mocha, not indeed to subjugate the Yemen, but in order to punish his revolted Albanian troops, and that he wished to know whether there would be any objection on the part of the British Government to his undertaking this expedition. It was also true that Lord Palmerston had instructed Colonel Campbell to reply that the British Government saw no objection to the proposed expedition. But the Pasha did not wait for this reply, the expedition was sent off before the reply was received, and the answer of the British Government had therefore no share in causing it to be sent.

The plan which had been proposed by the Government of Bombay for the occupation of Aden had, in the meanwhile, been taken into consideration by the authorities in England, and the Board of Directors in the East India Company informed the Government of Bombay that it was their wish that Aden should be occupied without delay, notwithstanding the remonstrances of the Pasha of Egypt, and expressed an expectation that measures were already in progress to secure this important object.

This was, however, not the case, as the Government of Bombay had not felt itself at liberty to embark in this enterprise without the special sanction of the Governor-General, which his Lordship had declined to give, further than by expressing an opinion as to the value of the position of Aden, and that the question was one on which Her Majesty's Government was called upon to pronounce judgment rather than the supreme Government of India.

In accordance with the wishes of the Directors, the Government of Bombay, without waiting for the previous instructions of the Governor-General, directed Captain Haines to proceed in the Honourable Company's sloop "Clive" on a second mission to Aden, with a view to obtaining peaceably the fulfilment of the engagement entered into by the Sultan, but at the same time authorized him, in the event of the Sultan's refusing to ratify the cession, to acquaint him that it was highly probable that a competent force would be immediately sent to take possession of Aden, and that the British Government would, in that case, hold it without any acknowledgment or payment whatever, either to himself or family.

Captain Haines was also directed, in his communication with the neighbouring Arab tribes, not to touch on commerce or other topics that would excite the jealous feelings of the Pasha of Egypt, or possibly lead to embarrassing connections and obligations.

In the event of Captain Haines finding Ibrahim Pasha in possession of Aden, he was informed that it would be his duty formally to declare that he, Ibrahim Pasha, was violating British territory, and that if he did not evacuate the place on that summons, knowing as he did, from the communication before made, that the place was ceded to

India Board; June 2, 1838.

Captain Haines to Ibrahim Pasha; Feb. 6, 1838.

Colonel Campbell, No. 15; Mar. 27, 1838.

Ibrahim Pasha to Viceroy; Feb. 12, 1838. Mar. 20 and 22, 1838.

Colonel Campbell, No. 21; April 17, 1838. Dated Mar. 20, 1838.

To Colonel Campbell; No. 15; May 12, 1838.

Board of Directors to Bombay Government; May 30, 1838.

Bombay Government to Board of Directors; May 27, 1838.

Bombay Government to Governor-General; June 5, 1838.

Secretary to Governor-General to Bombay Government; July 2, 1838.

India Board; Dec. 12, 1838.

the British; his remaining there would be at his peril. Captain Haines was further instructed to add that he was in possession of documents which showed that the English Ministry had declared to the Pasha of Egypt that they would not allow his encroachments beyond the Straits of Bab-el-Mandeb, and to warn Ibrahim Pasha that any act of his which might involve Egypt in hostilities with England, could not fail to draw upon him the displeasure of Mehemet Ali.

Should this remonstrance fail of effect, Captain Haines was directed to send an officer with a copy of it, and a statement of all the circumstances, to Colonel Campbell, and to request that an immediate representation might be made to the Pasha of Egypt, and that orders which could admit of no question might be dispatched by His Highness for the evacuation of Aden by his troops. Captain Haines was, in the meanwhile, to avoid all communication with the Egyptian force, but to warn the commander that all plunder or contributions levied on the town would be considered acts of aggression, and redress would be demanded accordingly.

Captain Haines to Bombay Government; Nov. 6 and 7, 1839.
Captain Haines to Colonel Campbell; Nov. 13, 1838.
Colonel Campbell, No. 75; Nov. 26, 1838.

On his arrival at Aden, Captain Haines found the town in possession of a body of armed Bedouins, commanded by Hamed, son of the Sultan of Aden; permission was refused to remove the British property recovered from the plunder of the "Deria Dowlut;" supplies of wood and water were denied to him, and an insulting letter was addressed to him by the son of the Sultan.

Captain Haines, however, communicated with the Sultan of Aden, and endeavoured to complete the arrangements as to the amount of the annual sum to be paid for the transfer. His attempts were completely without success, and he was finally obliged to give notice that, if the place was not quietly transferred agreeably to promise, the Sultan and his family would not receive any compensation, should the Indian authorities send a force to occupy it. The commander of the "Clive" was at the same time directed by Captain Haines to stop the entrance of provisions into the town, in retaliation for the refusal, on the part of the Sultan of Aden, to allow the "Clive" to provision herself in his territories.

Bombay Government to Captain Haines; Dec. 2 and 21, 1838.
Governor-General to Bombay Government; Jan. 21, 1839.
India Board; Jan. 3, 1839.
Captain Haines to Bombay Government; Jan. 25, 1839.
Captain Haines to Colonel Campbell; Jan. 28, 1839.
Captain Haines to Ibrahim Pasha; Feb. 25, 1839.
Colonel Campbell, No. 71; Feb. 11, 1839.

The Bombay Government, in consequence of these proceedings, determined, with the approval of the Governor-General and subsequently of the East India Directors, to support Captain Haines with a military and naval force. This force arrived on the 16th of January, 1839, at Aden, where, with the exception of a few days' truce, a system of continued hostility and insult had been adopted by the native authorities and Bedouins towards Captain Haines and the British at Aden. Captain Haines, therefore, determined that there was no alternative left but to direct the military authorities to effect the capture of Aden, which was accordingly effected on the 19th of January, and Aden thus became a British possession.

The despatch from Colonel Campbell,* communicating the views of Mehemet Ali upon the proposed cession of Aden to the British Government, had, in the meanwhile, been received in England, before the British Government had received intelligence of the events which had thus been taking place at Aden. In reply to that despatch Colonel Campbell was informed that the Government had, as yet, received no information on the subject, but that it was most probable that, if the report of the cession of Aden proved to be true, the conduct of the Indian Government would be approved. With reference to the statement of Mehemet Ali that, in the event of the British Government taking possession of Aden, he must withdraw his army from the Yemen, Colonel Campbell was informed that Her Majesty's Government were not aware that the occupation of that country by his troops promoted any interest of Great Britain; and Colonel Campbell's attention was particularly called to the fact that the operations of the Egyptian force in the Yemen were not (as has been already explained †) undertaken after the approval of the British Government had been obtained; and that the approval which Mehemet Ali had solicited, and had in fact obtained, was for plans of a totally different nature from those which he now contemplated, and which he had in part executed.

To Colonel Campbell, No. 15; May 12, 1838.

In subsequent instructions Colonel Campbell was directed to remind the Pasha that England could not see with indifference any attempt to invade or conquer the country lying at and beyond the mouth of the Red Sea, and to inform His Highness that the British Government had no desire that his occupation of the Yemen should continue.

To Colonel Campbell, No. 17; May 24, 1838.

* No. 15, of March 27, 1838. See p. 27.

† See p. 27.

On the receipt of intelligence from India of the cession of Aden, Colonel Campbell was further instructed to state to Mehemet Ali that any hostile movement of his troops against Aden would be an attack upon a British possession, and would be dealt with accordingly. And should the troops of Mehemet have occupied Aden, he was informed that the British Government expected that he would immediately withdraw them.

To Colonel Campbell, No. 16; June 6, 1838.
To Colonel Campbell, No. 22; July 25, 1838.

Colonel Campbell had several communications with the Pasha upon this subject, in which Mehemet stated that it was his opinion that Aden formed part of the Yemen, which had formerly been attached to the Turkish Empire, and that he consequently hoped that the Indian Government would refrain from taking possession of it, repeating his promise that he would permit the use of Aden as a coal depôt.

Colonel Campbell, No. 38; June 9, 1838.

The troops of Mehemet Ali had, at this period, gained great advantages over the Assir Arabs; and Colonel Campbell referring to those advantages, stated that the Pasha now looked upon the affairs of the Yemen and Hedjaz as nearly terminated.

Colonel Campbell, No. 39; June 10, 1838.
Colonel Campbell, No. 43; July 2, 1838.

On the receipt of his instructions from England, with reference to the position of Mehemet Ali as regarded Aden and the Yemen in general, Colonel Campbell communicated their tenor to Mehemet Ali. His Highness then stated that he would not presume to interfere in the question of the occupation of Aden by the British, and that he neither had sent nor would he attempt to send any troops to take possession of that place, which he now regarded as belonging to the English, and therefore respected it as such,—at the same time intimating that he considered * the chain of mountains as constituting the mutual boundary.

Colonel Campbell, No. 45; July 7, 1838.
Colonel Campbell, No. 60; Sept. 1, 1838.

Colonel Campbell also ascertained from the Pasha that he had received from the Porte, about nine years back, a Firman authorizing him to take possession of the Yemen, which Firman had not hitherto been recalled.

Colonel Campbell, No. 20; April 6, 1839.
Colonel Campbell, No. 21; April 6, 1839.

The army of Mehemet Ali was in the meantime making progress in the Yemen, and it soon became evident, as was suggested by the Bombay Government, that, unless the progress of Mehemet Ali in the Yemen was stopped by a representation from the British Government, which should have the effect of preventing his conquering Sana and the adjacent country, and which should thus secure for Aden a fair competition with Mocha in commercial intercourse with the interior of the Yemen, the cession of Aden would be of little value to the British in a commercial point of view.

India Board; Sept. 4, 1839.

Captain Haines described the country in the interior as in the possession of different independent Chiefs, with whose territory neither the Egyptian nor British had any right to interfere. If, however, the Egyptians had been permitted to persevere in carrying on their conquests, friendly communications with these chieftains on the part of the British, for commercial purposes, would have been out of the question, as the country would thus have fallen under the Egyptian yoke.

Captain Haines to Bombay Government; June 9, 1839.

Lord Ponsonby was, therefore directed to inquire of the Porte whether the conquests which Mehemet Ali had made in Arabia and on the shores of the Persian Gulf had been made in accordance with the wishes of the Sultan, and in pursuance of any authority or instructions given by the Sultan to Mehemet Ali.

To Lord Ponsonby, No. 61; May 11, 1839.

Colonel Campbell was also instructed, if the reply made by the Porte to Lord Ponsonby warranted such a step, to state to Mehemet Ali, with reference to his rumoured expedition upon Bagdad, that the British Government could not permit him to establish his naval and military power on the shores of the Persian Gulf; and that, if he should persevere in such project, he must expect that a British force would dispossess him from any naval station, at which he might attempt to place himself, on the Persian Gulf.

To Colonel Campbell, No. 10; May 11, 1839.

With reference also to Mehemet Ali's proposed attack on the independence of the native chiefs around Aden, Colonel Campbell was directed to intimate to him that it was the wish of Her Majesty's Government that he should respect the independence of the native chiefs in the vicinity of Aden, and that any attempt on his part to subvert their authority would not be viewed with indifference by the British Government; and, in the month of September, 1839, Colonel Campbell was also directed to state to Mehemet Ali that Her Majesty's Government wished him to withdraw his troops from the Yemen.

To Colonel Campbell, No. 13; May 11, 1839.
To Colonel Campbell, No. 27; Sept. 13, 1839.

Lord Palmerston, in his reply to the letter from the India Board communicating the suggestions of the Bombay Government before referred to, stated that, in his opinion, the Government of India need not be restrained in its dealings with the chiefs of the

To India Board; Sept. 13, 1839.

* With the view of shutting out the part of Aden from the coffee trade with the interior.—See letter from India Board of September 4, 1839.

interior, or with the Imam of Sana, by any consideration for Mehemet Ali, who had "no right whatever over the countries governed by those Rulers."

Colonel Hodges, Nos. 26; Feb. 22, 1840, India Board; April 30, 1840.

In the month of February 1840 Captain Haines informed Colonel Hodges, who had succeeded Colonel Campbell as Consul-General at Alexandria, that Mehemet Ali had sent a secret mission to the Imam of Sana, requesting him to drive the British out of Aden, and engaging on his side to return to him Taizz, and all the interior towns which he had taken from him in his late campaigns. In the event of the Imam's not complying with this request, the emissary of Mehemet Ali was instructed to invite him to surrender his dominions to Mehemet Ali, upon the latter engaging to pay him a yearly stipend. The result of this mission was, that the Imam declined to attack the English at Aden, but offered to surrender his dominions on the receipt of a very large pecuniary compensation.

On the receipt of this intelligence, Colonel Hodges called upon the Pasha for an explanation. Mehemet Ali admitted that he had sent an emissary to the Imam with a proposal to him to cede his dominions in return for a yearly allowance to be paid to him, but strenuously denied having made any proposition prejudicial to the interests of Great Britain at Aden, and stated that his sole motive in seeking the possession of the country, was to remove it from that of so unworthy a ruler as the Imam, who had allowed the British to possess themselves of Aden.

Colonel Hodges, No. 45; May 21, 1840. Lord Ponsonby, No. 1338; 1840. To India Board; August 3, 1840. Colonel Hodges, No. 100; Sept. 22, 1840. Captain Haines to Secretary Hon. Company Aug. 6, 1840. India Board Dec. 10, 1841.

In the course of the year 1840, the Egyptian troops evacuated Arabia: Ibrahim Pasha, on leaving the country, left Mocha and the neighbouring ports in the possession of a person named Sheriff Hossein, on condition of his paying Mehemet Ali a yearly tribute of 90,000 German crowns. This Chief has, from the day of his appointment, pursued a course of invariable hostility to British interests; but as it appears that the Porte has recognized his appointment, the question as to his misconduct has been referred to Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople.

Memorandum.

Three questions of considerable importance at present depend upon the right of sovereignty claimed by the Porte over the Yemen. These are:—

1. The claim of the Porte,* under the Commercial Treaty of 1838, to a duty of 12 per cent. upon goods imported into Djidda, a Turkish port, from the Yemen on the ground of the Yemen being a Turkish province.

2. The question as to the reparation for the insults and injuries to which British interests have for some time past been subject at the hands of the Sheriff of Mocha.

3. The right by which the British Government holds possession of Aden.

If the right of sovereignty over the Yemen be conceded to the Porte, it necessarily follows that the Yemen, being a Turkish province, its produce exported by British merchants into a Turkish port, Djidda for instance, should pay the 12 per cent.; that Mocha, being *de jure* as well as *de facto* a Turkish town, satisfaction for the misconduct of its Shereeff should be demanded from the Porte; and, that Aden forming a portion of the Yemen, and being consequently dependent on the Turkish Empire, is wrongly in the hands of the British Government, who have assumed possession of it in virtue of a Treaty concluded with a dependent Power, which Treaty is therefore invalid.

It therefore becomes important to determine the nature and foundation of the claim of the Porte to sovereignty over the Yemen, and the connection between the Yemen and the towns of Mocha and Aden.

I. *Turkish Claim of Sovereignty in Yemen.*

See Hammer, Hist. de l'Empire, tome xvi, p. 182. Ibid., iv, p. 291

A wide distinction is to be drawn between the relations of the Hedjaz and Yemen towards the Porte. On the conquest of Egypt by Selim I, in 1517, one of the "Beni Kotudés," the family of the Shereeffs of Mecca, brought to him the keys of the "kaaba," and

* This is correctly stated from Sir S. Canning's despatch. But if the Yemen is Turkish, goods imported from thence into Djidda, also Turkish, would be looked upon as articles of internal trade, and, as such, subject to such duties as would be paid by Ottoman subjects. It could only be on exportation from Djidda that the question of 12 per cent. duty could be raised. The question appears to be whether the produce of the Yemen, exported from Djidda, is to be considered Turkish produce or not. If the former, it would of course be liable to a 12 per cent. duty.

the submission and hostages of the Arab tribes of the Hedjaz, and from that time and up to the present, adds Von Hammer, "les Beni Kotudés ont conservé comme Schérifs une ombre de pouvoir sous la dynastie Ottomane."

Malte Brun, Geogr., tome viii, pp. 270, 279.

An interruption took place in the Turkish rule in the year 1804, when the Wahabees seized possession of Mecca and the adjoining country, which they maintained until the year 1818, when the sovereignty of the Sultan was restored by Mehemet Ali, Pasha of Egypt, who had been called upon by the Porte to destroy the sect of the Wahabees.

See Clot Bey, Aperçu sur l'Egypte, tome i, p. lxxi. Geogr., tome viii, p. 295.

The account given by Malte Brun of the early history of the Yemen, is as follows:— "Soumis par Mahomet, et ensuite par Saladin, l'Yémen dépendait des Sultans Mamelouks: en 1587 il fut menacé d'une invasion Ottomane; mais en 1630, le Sultan Amurath IV reconnut Sejid Khassen ib Mohammed pour Roi d'Yémen, en se reservant toutefois une suzeraineté nominale."

1517.

Hammer, tome vi, p. 336.

The invasion in the year 1517, was one from Hoossein, an Admiral of the Sultan Selim's, who, when on his way to India to co-operate with the Mussulman Sovereigns of that country in the expulsion of the Portuguese invaders, attacked and caused the destruction of Amaur, the last Prince of the native dynasty of the Beni-Tahirs.

Hammer, tome v, p. 362; vi, p. 360.

The Sultan's rule in the Yemen was further confirmed by Solyman Pasha, Governor of Egypt, who was sent, in the year 1538-39, to combine with the Caanbayan forces in besieging Din, which had been seized by the Portuguese.

1538.

From this time the chief power in the Yemen, though occasionally seized by usurpers, belonged to the Sultans, who appointed Governors.

Hammer, tome vi, p. 365.

In the year 1567 a great rebellion took place against the Ottoman rule (then represented by Hasan Pasha, Governor of Yemen), headed by Moutahker, Imam of the Seïds, who seized on Sana, Aden, Mocha, and the rest of the Yemen with the exception of Sebid.

1567.

Ibid., vi p. 379.

Sinan, Pasha of Egypt, was dispatched by the Porte to put down this rebellion, which he accomplished in May 1570, when he made a Treaty with Moutahker by which the Porte recovered her former dominion in the Yemen.

1570.

The Turkish rule continued in the Yemen till, in the year 1587, during the reign of the Sultan Murad III, Hasan, the then Governor of the Yemen, caused new troubles to arise by treacherously seizing, and sending to Constantinople, the Chiefs of the Seïds. The sect of the Seïds at once declared themselves independent, and tranquillity disappeared in the Yemen. The Imam of the Seïds soon after this took the title of "Commander of the Faithful," and attacked the Governor of the Yemen in Sana. At length, in the year 1633, and in the reign of Murad IV, a battle took place at Djanan between the Ottoman army under Kaussonbeg, who had been nominated Governor by the Porte, and the Imaum of the Seïds. The battle ended unfavourably for the Turks; and, to conclude in the words of Hammer, "désormais l'Yémen fut livré sans défense à la domination des Seïdes."

1587. Hammer, tome viii, p. 204.

Ibid., tome ix, pp. 93, 107, 202.

1633.

It would appear from this sketch that the Turkish conquest of the Yemen, such as it was, commenced in 1517; that the Turkish rule was frequently disturbed by revolutions amongst the native inhabitants of the conquered country, and amongst others by the Seïds, whose hereditary chiefs are now the Imams of Sana; and that that rule ended in the year 1633, since which time the Yemen has been under the rule of the Imam of Sana, the Chief of the Seïds, whose Government Malte Brun thus describes:—"Le trône de l'Yémen est héréditaire. L'Imam, ou Emei, y est indépendant, et ne reconnait aucun supérieur ni spirituel ni temporel."

Hammer, tome ix, p. 206.

Geogr., tome viii, p. 296.

Is it necessary then to inquire whether the campaign of Ibrahim Pasha the younger in the Yemen, during the years 1838-40, can be regarded as establishing for the Porte a further title to the sovereignty over the Yemen?

That campaign originated, or professed to originate, in friendly feelings on the part of the Pasha of Egypt towards the Imam. Mehemet Ali professed that he was only sending an army to succour the Imam of Sana, the independent Sovereign of the Yemen. It was not till a later period, and till the expedition had set forth, that the Pasha hinted that he aimed at uniting the Yemen to the Hedjaz, to which it then appeared that the Sultan considered it rightfully belonged.

See Colonel Campbell's No. 19, April 16, 1838. See Abstract, pp. 9, 29.

The plans of the Pasha, however, were unsuccessful, and he was unable to complete the subjugation of the Yemen. The right of the Sultan to the possession of the Yemen was no more heard of. Mehemet Ali entered into negotiations with the Imam, offering the restitution of the places he had taken from him if he would drive the English from Aden; or, in the event of the Imam's being unable or unwilling to effect that object, offering him a yearly stipend if he would give up his kingdom.

A fair deduction from these facts is that the Porte's right of sovereignty over the Yemen, which was the alleged justification of this attack upon the Imam, was too

untenable to be avowed at the outset, or to be maintained in the face of impediments such as those which induced Mehemet Ali to offer to buy for the Porte what he had maintained to be her rights.

See Abstract, pp. 13, 47, 57.

The British Government, early in the course of the expedition, expressed a disapproval of it, and treated the proceedings of Ibrahim Pasha in the Yemen, as an occupation only. Mehemet Ali was warned that it was the wish of Her Majesty's Government that he should respect the independence of the native chiefs in the vicinity of Aden, and, in September 1839, he was told that the British Government wished him to withdraw his troops from the Yemen.

Ibid., p. 58.

Lord Palmerston, indeed, went so far as to state to the Board of Control that, in his opinion, the Government of India need not be restrained in its dealings with the Chiefs of the Interior, or with the Imam of Sana, by any consideration for Mehemet Ali, who had "no right whatever over the countries governed by those Rulers."

The claim of sovereignty over the Yemen, which the Porte has made, has, therefore, not as yet been recognized by the British Government.

II. *Sovereignty over Mocha.*

See Abstract, p. 1. Malte Brun, tome viii. p. 302. Colonel Campbell. No. 6; Feb. 22, 1836.

Mocha was in the possession of the adherents of the Imam of Sana when it was seized by Tooreh Bilmer, in the year 1832. It was taken in December 1833 by the Bedouins, instigated by the Pasha of Egypt. It subsequently came into the hands of Ibrahim Pasha, by whom it was held till, on the evacuation of the Yemen by the troops of Mehemet Ali in 1840, Sheriff Hoossein was appointed to rule over it, on condition of his paying tribute to the Pasha. This tribute has not been regularly paid.* The Imam has since made various attempts to recover his lost territory.

See India Board letter of Feb. 13, 1841.

See Captain Haines to Bombay Government, dated Jan. 27, 1842. Terms viii. p. 302. See Appendices C and D to Summary in India Board letter of June 12, 1843.

There seems no doubt that Mocha, and the adjacent ports of Hodeida and Zebid, did formerly belong to the Imam. They are specially mentioned by Malte Brun as belonging to him. And that they were recognized as such by the Government of India is evident from the fact that, in the year 1820, the East India Company's Factory at Mocha having been plundered by subjects of the local Government, the Company's ships blockaded the ports on the coast; and these hostilities were terminated by a Treaty, dated January 15, 1821, between Captain Bruce and the Imam of Sana.

Mocha can therefore properly be considered only as belonging to the Imam of Sana.

III. *Sovereignty over Aden.*

See Abstract, p. 42.

On Mehemet Ali's being made acquainted with the British occupation of Aden, he stated to Colonel Campbell that it was his opinion that Aden formed part of Yemen, and that he consequently hoped the British Government would refrain from taking possession of it.

Hammer, tome xv. p. 302; vi. p. 369. Ibid., tome vi. p. 376

Aden certainly formed a portion of Yemen, which has formerly been subject to the Turkish rule. It is even twice mentioned as having been individually subjected to the Ottoman Dominion, namely, by Solyman Pasha, in 1538, and by Sinan Pasha in 1569; but Aden became free from the Turkish yoke at the same time that the Yemen emancipated itself under the guidance of the Chiefs of the Seïds.

If, however, Aden remained under the rule of the Imam, the arrangement for the cession of it concluded by Captain Haines with its Sultan, without the sanction of its Sovereign, the Imam, would not be valid.

This was not the case. The Sultan of Aden was at least *de facto* independent of the Imam. Aden had some time back declared itself independent. It is mentioned by Malte Brun, as one of the "petits Etats qui ont bravé la Puissance de l'Imam." Aden had also been treated before this by the British Government as an independent State.

The "Edinburgh Gazetteer" (1827) states between 1730 and 1740.

Terms viii. p. 301. See Colonel Campbell's No. 21, April 17, 1837, and No. 15, July 7, 1838. See India Board letter of July 16, 1838.

In the year 1802, Sir Home Popham had made a Convention with the Sovereign of Aden, in which he was treated as an independent ruler. In the year 1828 also, in consequence of a dispute between the British Resident and the Imam of Sana, it was at one time thought desirable that the Residence should be removed from Mocha out of the Imam's dominions. For this purpose, Colonel Hutchinson entered into a Convention with the Sovereign of Aden, arranging the terms on which the British Residency should be received at that place in the event of its being necessary to remove it from the

* The nature of this appointment will be better understood from the fact that when Eschreff Bey was sent into the country to investigate the complaints against him, the Bey wrote to desire him to deliver up *to the Government of Turkey* the seaport town of Yemen, while Shereef Hoossein defended his retention of them by stating that *of right they belonged to the Imam.*

dominions of the Imam of Sana. In this Convention the Sovereign of Aden was treated as an independent ruler, and addressed by the title of Sultan, and the Imam of Sana did not contest his right to enter into such a Convention.

Colonel Hutchinson to Bombay Government, March 26, 1839.

It appears further that, at the very time when Colonel Hutchinson was negotiating this Convention, the Turkish Government were also negotiating with the Sultan of Aden for permission to erect a small fort on the Eastern Bay, upon the conditions that they, the Turks, should afford the Sultan of Aden assistance against his hostile neighbours, but that the possession of Aden and the exercise of civil and military authority should be reserved to him, the Turks merely having command of their fortress on the beach. On the arrival of Colonel Hutchinson, the Sultan of Aden made him a similar offer in favour of the British Government, which was, however, declined.

Considering these facts, it appears that, in 1828, Aden was dealt with as being out of the dominions of the Imam. That the Imam did not protest against a Treaty concluded with its Ruler without his sanction, and that the Ruler of Aden then considered himself equally free to dispose of a portion of his territory to the British or to the Turkish Government. In other words, the Ruler of Aden was *de facto* independent of both the Imam and the Turkish Empire.

It does not appear that since the cession of Aden to the British Government any protest has been made by the Imam against that cession; at all events not at the time when he proposed to send a nephew of his as an Ambassador to Captain Haines, at Aden, for the purpose of negotiating a Treaty of Peace and Friendship with the British Government.

The object of the above remarks has been to prove—1st, that the Turkish Sovereignty over the Yemen, if it ever existed *de jure*, has, at all events, fallen into desuetude now for two centuries; 2ndly, that the town of Mocha properly belongs to the Imam of Sana; and 3rdly, that at the time when Aden was ceded to the British Government its Sultan was *de facto* independent of the Imam of Sana.

A Treaty between the British Government and the Imam of Sana, founded on these principles, would seem to offer some advantages. The Imam should be called upon therein to recognize the cession of Aden to the British Government, and thus the chance of any future objection on the part of the Imams of Sana would be obviated. The Imam should also bind himself to secure free intercourse between Aden and the country in the interior, thus allowing to Aden, if not the exclusive traffic with the rich coffee districts of the interior, at least a fair competition with Mocha. On his side the Imam might call upon the British Government to aid him in the recovery of Mocha and the other towns which have been taken from him by Ibrahim Pasha, and which are now in the possession of Shereeff Hoossein; and this would bring about the removal, now for some time desired by Her Majesty's Government, of this individual who has shown himself so hostile to British interests.

It may be objected to any such agreement being entered into by the British Government with the Imam of Sana, that the authority of the Porte at Mocha, and its Shereeff, has been recognized by the appeal which Sir Stratford Canning has been directed to make to the Porte for the removal of the Shereeff. That appeal, founded upon a supposed *de facto* sovereignty of the Porte at Mocha, has completely failed as yet in producing the results desired by Her Majesty's Government. While Sir Stratford Canning is assured at Constantinople that satisfaction shall be given for the wrongs inflicted on British subjects and British trade at Mocha, and while the Porte sends Commissioners to enforce its orders by the removal of the Shereeff, Shereeff Hoossein continues in his former course without any check or punishment. The sovereignty of the Porte is therefore not even a *de facto* sovereignty; and that being the case, the Appeal to the Porte made upon the supposition of the existence of such a sovereignty falls to the ground.

It only remains then for the British Government to have recourse to the Sovereign to whom belongs the *de jure* sovereignty over Mocha; and this argument would justify the insertion of a clause in a Treaty with the Imam of Sana, of the nature above adverted to, by which the British Government should engage itself to co-operate with the Imam in reducing Mocha, and its adjacent ports, again under his authority.

Foreign Office, November 14, 1843.

No. 16.

The Duke of Argyll to Mr. Hammond.—(Received January 29.)

India Office, January 25, 1873.

My dear Hammond,

ON looking at the telegram from Constantinople about Aden, I am afraid we can't think it at all satisfactory, because what our people complain of and protest against is that Turkey is asserting dominion over tribes and territory with which we have independent relations—very important for the support and maintenance of Aden.

To this Turkey replies, "Oh, it is nothing at all, these tribes and territories are already ours (part of Yemen—a province of Turkey) and we are only punishing some depredations made by one chief upon another."

Well, but if we admit this as satisfactory we are giving up all that Frere and others are contending for.

I don't know precisely what claim, historically, Turkey can make as to sovereignty over those tribes. But Frere denies it altogether, and says it is entirely unfounded.

However this may be, they have been practically independent, and we have established relations with them for very practical and important reasons. We must not, therefore, accept without protest a reply which asserts the very dominion we object to, and merely assures us that they are taking no new steps. Will you look into this matter? What I am afraid of is a seeming acquiescence in a reply which may involve the whole question in dispute.

Yours, &c.
(Signed) ARGYLL.

No. 17.

Sir H. Elliot to Earl Granville.—(Received January 28.)

(No. 11.)

Constantinople, January 13, 1873.

My Lord,

I HAVE communicated to Khalil Pasha your Lordship's instructions in reference to any hostile operations against the Arab chieftains in the immediate neighbourhood of the British territory at Aden.

His Excellency said that no such operations had been commenced or could be undertaken without the orders of the Porte, which would not give them without previous communication with Her Majesty's Government.

Lahej or Lash is regarded by the Porte as forming a part of the territory of Yemen, which having lately been reduced to more complete submission to the authority of the Sultan, the chief in question had been invited by the Governor of the province to come with another neighbouring chieftain to make his profession of obedience; the other complied, but the Chief of Lash invaded and plundered his territory and forced him to return.

The Governor consequently represents the necessity of measures being taken to punish the aggressors, but the particulars of the case will be communicated to Her Majesty's Government, who may, at all events, rest assured of the most scrupulous respect being shown for the British territory.

I reminded Khalil Pasha that only a very few days since he had authorized me to disclaim on the part of the Porte all idea of conquest beyond the Red Sea, and I asked him what had been the previous position of the chief whose submission it was now proposed to insist upon.

His Excellency replied that the report of the Governor-General of Yemen had only just been received and he was not yet very fully acquainted with all the particulars.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

No. 18.

Earl Granville to Sir H. Elliot.

(No. 19.)

Foreign Office, January 30, 1873.

Sir,

I HAVE received your despatch No. 11 of the 13th of January, reporting at length your conversation with Khalil Pasha respecting the hostile operations threatened

by the Turkish authorities in Arabia against the Arab Chieftains in the immediate neighbourhood of the British territory at Aden.

The Pasha's language, in so far as it contained a promise that no such operations would be undertaken without previous communication with the British Government, was satisfactory; not so his assumption of the right of the Porte to call upon those Chieftains to make a profession of obedience to the Porte, on the ground that the territory of Yemen is subject to the authority of the Porte, even though this assumption was qualified by the assurance of the most scrupulous respect being shown for the British territory.

I instructed your Excellency, by my despatch No. 15 of the 23rd of this month, to state to the Porte that Her Majesty's Government would view seriously any proceedings on the part of Turkish authorities to disturb the country in the neighbourhood of Aden.

But, in consequence of Khalil Pasha's language, Her Majesty's Government consider it desirable that you should point out to the Turkish Government that the question is not that of the territory held by the British Government at Aden, in respect of which they do not require any assurance from the Porte, but that the Sultan of Lahej, and other Arab Chiefs in friendly relations with the British Government at Aden, should not be molested or interfered with by Turkish authorities, on the alleged ground that the Province of Yemen belongs to the Porte, and that those Chiefs, as inhabiting part of that province, are subjects of the Porte.

Whatever rights of sovereignty the Porte in times long gone by might have had in Yemen, it is notorious that since the year 1633 Yemen has been under the rule of Arab Chiefs, independent of the Porte. Her Majesty's Government have, however, no desire to discuss that question generally; but they cannot, as matters stand but intimate through you to the Porte, as was intimated by them to Mehemet Ali in the year 1839, that Her Majesty's Government wish that the independence of the native Chiefs in the vicinity of Aden should be respected; and that any attempt to subvert their authority would not be viewed with indifference by Her Majesty's Government.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 19.

Sir H. Elliot to Earl Granville.—(Received February 1.)

(No. 21.)

Constantinople, January 24, 1873.

My Lord,

SINCE reporting to your Lordship, by my despatch No. 11 of the 13th instant, that I had executed your telegraphic instruction, in reference to the threatened attack upon the Chief or Sultan of Lahej, I have received from Sir Bartle Frere a private letter of the same tenor as one which he tells me he has addressed to your Lordship upon the same subject.

I have prepared from it the inclosed Memorandum for communication to the Porte, which, as far as I could perceive, seemed unconscious of the relation in which the Chief of Lahej stood towards the Government of Aden.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

Inclosure in No. 19.

Memorandum.

Constantinople, January 24, 1873.

THE circumstances connected with Lahej, upon which explanations were asked of the Porte the other day, appear, from what can be ascertained from trustworthy sources, but not communicated by Her Majesty's Government, to be as follows:—

Lahej, which is within 15 miles of the garrison outposts of Aden, is the chief town of the low country, and commands the country from which Aden draws its supplies of grain, forage, fuel, water, &c.

Its Chief, or Sultan, as he calls himself, is a stipendiary of the British Government, receiving a monthly salary for the services of his people in feeding Aden and keeping the roads open, and has never been subject to the authority of the Porte.

Some months ago the Mushir established at Sana, not less than 150 miles off, took upon himself to summon this Chief, the stipendiary of the British Government, to attend his camp and submit himself formally to the Turkish Government, and to prepare camels, &c., for a descent into the low country of Lahej, commonly called El Hantash.

The Chief replied that he was the servant and stipendiary of the British Government, but no notice was taken of this answer by the Pasha.

It is certain that for generations the Porte has not exercised or pretended to a shadow of authority over the district in question, and the unwarranted attempt of the Pasha to reduce it to subjection could not be seen with indifference by Her Majesty's Government.

No. 20.

Mr. Merivale to Mr. Hammond.—(Received January 31.)

India Office, January 30, 1873.

Sir,

WITH reference to my letter of the 26th November, 1872, I am directed by the Duke of Argyll to forward, for the information of Earl Granville, copy of a further letter from the Resident, dated 11th December, 1872, with inclosed correspondence, respecting the proceedings of the Turks in Yemen.

I am, &c.

(Signed) HERMAN MERIVALE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 20.

Brigadier-General Schneider to the Duke of Argyll.

Aden, December 11, 1872.

My Lord Duke,

I DO myself the honour to forward a copy of my despatch of the 10th instant, with accompaniment, to the Government of Bombay.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. W. SCHNEIDER.

Inclosure 2 in No. 20.

Brigadier-General Schneider to Mr. Gonne.

Aden, December 10, 1872.

Sir,

IN continuation of former correspondence on the subject of Turkish rule in Yemen ending with my letter of the 20th of November, 1872, I have the honour to forward, for the information of Government, translation of a communication addressed to me by the Sultan of Lahej, covering a letter which he has received from Moosa Kathem Pasha, the Meer Liwa, or Military Commandant at Taizz, and a circular from the Mushir Ahmed Mukhtar Pasha to the neighbouring Princes, in which he announces the capture of the fortress of Kaukeban.

2. I have suggested to Sultan Fadhl, in answer to his letter, that he should forward a reply to the effect that he had already received a communication from the Mushir himself, to which he had sent an answer. The nature of the answer is to be found under paragraph 4 of my letter of the 26th October, 1872.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. W. SCHNEIDER.

Inclosure 3 in No. 20.

Sultan Fadhl bin Mohsin of Lahej to Brigadier-General Schneider.

(Translation.)

(After compliments.) 6 *Shawal*, 1289 (*December* 7, 1872).

I HAVE received a letter from the Agent of the Mushir, who is at Taizz. The purport of the letter is this: he wants me to go to him, and writes about the power of

the Porte, of which I need no illustration, as it is evident. I am much surprised, as I had previously received a letter from one who is higher in dignity than this man. I had answered him in the terms of the letter you gave me. I have received no answer to it, and if there should be one, I thought it would have come from the Mushir himself. As I do not know what to do according to rule, I am in some confusion. We trust to your kindness in this important matter. Your Excellency knows what has made me astonished. If it is necessary to send any reply, please write it. If no answer is required we shall learn so from what you say.

Inclosure 4 in No. 20.

Moosa Kathem Pasha to Shaikh Fadhl bin Mohsin.

(Translation.)

(After compliments.) 2 *Shawal*, 1289 (*December* 3, 1872.

WE write this from the city of Taizz, after a peaceful settlement of all the province and after destroying all its oppressors. We entered it with swords, which having begun at Yemen will end at Constantinople. Our intention is to settle the country, and to bring peace to all. As all the districts had been in the hands of the former rulers of the Ottoman Empire, it is befitting for all who live in these parts to enter and live under the shadow of the justice of the high Government. We have been expecting your arrival in this country ever since we came, so that you may get honour, fortune, and high dignity, which is our desire. Verily, he who knows the power of the high Government must, necessarily, enter into its service. You, by the kindness of God, know this better than any one. We send this to know your wish.

Inclosure 5 in No. 20.

Substance of a Circular by the Mushir Ahmed Mukhtar Pasha.

(Translation.)

(After praising God.) 22 *Ramazan*, 1289 (*November* 13, 1872).

WE circulated this notice among all the officers, soldiers, and the people at large. The people of Kaukeban being rash and ignorant of the power and justice of our Government offered resistance to us, which is known to all who are near and distant. The army of our Government, therefore, invested the strong fortress of Kaukeban as completely as the moon is encompassed by its horns. The blockade lasted six months, which is also well known. The besieged suffered much from the power of our arms, until Sayed Ahmed bin Mohamed and his adherents capitulated, and expressed their desire of coming to us, and residing under the shadow of our justice, and thus their foolishness gave way to sound reason, like that of wise men. We granted them an amnesty, pardoned all their misdemeanours, pacified the fear of their hearts, and showed them our compassion and forbearance. He, the Sayed Ahmed bin Mohamed, stood in my presence accompanied by Fudhlee Pasha, the commander of the army. Other Sayeds, Sheikhs, and men of dignity were also with him. They are now included among the subjects of our Government. Our army took entire possession of the hill fortress. The people of this district have obtained justice and peace, in the place of terror and dismay.

No. 21.

Mr. Grant-Duff to Mr. Hammond.—(Received February 12.)

India Office, February 12, 1873.

Sir,

I AM directed by the Duke of Argyll to acknowledge, with his Grace's thanks, receipt of your letters of the 11th, 15th, 24th, 28th, and 31st ultimo,* on the subject of Turkish proceedings in the neighbourhood of Lahej; and, in continuation of the correspondence already submitted by the India Office to Earl Granville on this question, I am to forward herewith, for his Lordship's perusal, letters lately received from the Government of India and the Political Resident at Aden.

I am, &c.

(Signed) M. E. GRANT-DUFF.

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* Forwarding copies of Nos. 10, 11, 15, and 18.

Inclosure 1 in No. 21.

The Governor-General of India in Council to the Duke of Argyll.

Fort William, January 3, 1872.

My Lord Duke,

WITH reference to the correspondence ending with the despatch from the Secretary in the Political and Secret Department, dated 3rd November, 1871, we have the honour to forward, for the information of Her Majesty's Government, a copy of papers relative to the alleged proceedings of the Turkish authorities with regard to Shuhur.

We have, &c.

(Signed) NORTHBROOK.
R. TEMPLE.
B. H. ELLIS.
H. W. NORMAN.
A. HOBHOUSE.
E. C. BAYLEY.

Inclosure 2 in No. 21.

Mr. Gonne to Mr. Aitchison.

Bombay Castle, November 11, 1872.

REFERRING to Mr. LePoer Wynne's letter dated the 11th July, 1871, I am directed to submit, for the orders of his Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General in Council, the accompanying copy of a letter from the Agent of Nawaz Jung Bahadoor of Shuhur, dated the 21st ultimo, regarding an alleged intention of the Turks to bring Shuhur and the territories subordinate to it under the Turkish flag.

Inclosure 3 in No. 21.

Sheikh Saeed bin Ali to Mr. Gonne.

Poona, October 21, 1872.

SHUHUR and the territories subordinate to it, which belong to my master, Awud bin Oomur Sultan Nawaz Jung Bahadoor, are situated on the south-eastern coast of Arabia. From times of yore the Sultan has been independent, and, as his territories are situated near Aden, he has always coveted and cultivated friendship with the British Government and the British authorities at Aden. The Sultan has never been subject to, nor has he acknowledged, the sovereignty of the Turkish Government. Turkish officers, who have lately been visiting the different parts of Arabia, ask my master, the Sultan of Shuhur, to acknowledge the sovereignty of the Turkish Government and to hoist the Turkish flags: but as he has never been subject to that Government, and has always had friendly relations with the British Government, and considers himself more to be a dependent of it, he has as yet given no reply, and has deputed me to Bombay to bring the circumstance to the notice of the British Government. About four years ago, when my master was here and had an interview with the then head of the Government, he expressed his wish to hoist the British flags at his capital, and to thus declare himself to be subordinate to the British Government. In reply, he was informed that the matter was under the consideration of the authorities in England, and that no final reply could be given to him. As he has, however, received no final orders, he is anxious to get them soon. If the British Government will deem it proper to comply with his request, he will ever feel grateful.

Inclosure 4 in No. 21.

Mr. Aitchison to Mr. Gonne.

Fort William, December 27, 1872.

IN acknowledging the receipt of your letter, dated 11th November, 1872, I am directed to state that it is the wish of the Viceroy and Governor-General in Council that

no reply should be given to the letter therewith forwarded from the Agent of Nawaz Jung Bahadoor, Chief of Shuhur.

Inclosure 5 in No. 21.

The Governor-General of India in Council to the Duke of Argyll.

Fort William, January 3, 1873.

My Lord Duke,

IN continuation of our despatch dated 3rd October, 1872, we have the honour to forward, for the information of Her Majesty's Government, a copy of papers relative to affairs at Aden and its vicinity.

We have, &c.

(Signed) NORTHBROOK.
R. TEMPLE.
B. H. ELLIS.
H. W. NORMAN
A. HOBHOUSE.
E. C. BAYLEY.

Inclosure 6 in No. 21.

Mr. Gonne to Mr. Aitchison.

Bombay Castle, September 18, 1872.

IN continuation of the letter from this Office, dated the 16th instant, I have the honour, by direction of his Excellency the Governor in Council, to forward, for the information of the Government of India, the accompanying copy of a news report received from the Political Resident at Aden.

Inclosure 7 in No. 21.

News Report from the 5th to the 11th September, 1872.

Aden, September 11, 1872.

IT is reported that the Mushir Ahmed Mukhtar Pasha has farmed the revenues of the Province of Yemen for the remaining months of the Mahomedan year to the principal Chiefs in the country, with the exception of the Beled Amran, Hajaruja, Taizz, Oodain, Ibb, Jibleh, and a few other towns, the dues from which are retained in the hands of Government. The total amount of these farms is said to aggregate 124,000 dollars, whilst the revenues of the other districts is estimated at 400,000 dollars to the end of the year. The district of Kattaba appears to mark the southernmost limit of the Turkish possessions.

The Portuguese gun-boats "Tete" and "Sena" arrived here on the 9th instant from Mozambique.

The general state of the interior is tranquil, but owing to the ravages of locusts in the Lahej territory, supplies have become somewhat dearer.

(Signed) J. W. SCHNEIDER, *Brigadier-General, Resident, Aden.*

Inclosure 8 in No. 21.

Mr. Gonne to Mr. Aitchison.

Bombay Castle, October 31, 1872.

IN continuation of the letter from this Office, dated the 18th instant, I have the honour, by direction of his Excellency the Governor in Council, to forward, for the information of the Government of India, the accompanying copy of a news report received from the Political Resident at Aden.

Inclosure 9 in No. 21.

News Report from the 10th to the 18th October, 1872.

Aden, October 18, 1872.

THE steam-ship "Elgin," which sailed from Calcutta on the 18th September with a cargo of jute, caught fire from spontaneous combustion within two days' sail from Aden; the vessel has been damaged to the extent of about 250*l.*, and the cargo to the estimated value of 380*l.*

The Portuguese transport "India" has arrived for the purpose of conveying to the Zambesi the Portuguese gun-boats "Tete" and "Sena."

The Chief of the lower Owlakees has paid a visit to Aden to be introduced to the Resident, and Sultan Ali bin Ahmed, the Yaffaee, has returned to his country.

It is reported the Turks desired to take possession of the fortress of Kaukeban, offering an amnesty to the Chiefs of that district on condition of their rebuilding the bridge that had been destroyed which connected the fortress with the city. It is said the Chiefs have refused these terms.

The Arabs are again mustering in force to the number of 15,000 fighting men; but as an epidemic has broken out among them, it is expected they will sustain a defeat at the hands of the Turks. Their regiments are reported to have left Mocha for the capture of Yeaz.

The interior in the immediate neighbourhood of Aden is tranquil. The public health is good, the cold season having set in, and supplies are plentiful.

(Signed) J. W. SCHNEIDER, *Brigadier-General, Resident, Aden.*

Inclosure 10 in No. 21.

Mr. Gonne to Mr. Aitchison.

Bombay Castle, November 4, 1872.

IN continuation of the letter from this Office, dated the 31st ultimo, I have the honour, by direction of his Excellency the Governor in Council, to forward, for the information of the Government of India, the accompanying copy of a news report received from the Political Resident at Aden.

Inclosure 11 in No. 21.

News Report from the 19th to the 23rd October, 1872.

Aden, October 23, 1872.

HER Majesty's ship "Briton" returned from Cape Guardafui on the 18th instant after an absence of some ten days. Her attempts to save the cargo of tin which was on board the wrecked steam-ship "Parnassus" met with no success, and no hope can be entertained of the recovery of any portion of it.

The Sultan of Lahej arrived in Aden this morning on a visit to the Resident.

The fortress of Kaukeban still holds out against the Turkish force employed in its investment.

There is no further news of interest to communicate by this mail.

(Signed) J. W. SCHNEIDER, *Brigadier-General, Resident, Aden.*

Inclosure 12 in No. 21.

Mr. Gonne to Mr. Aitchison.

Bombay Castle, November 12, 1872.

IN continuation of the letter from this Office, dated the 4th instant, I have the honour, by direction of his Excellency the Governor in Council, to forward, for the information of the Government of India, the accompanying copy of a news report received from the Political Resident at Aden.

Inclosure 13 in No. 21.

News Report from the 24th to the 30th October, 1872.

Aden, October 30, 1872.

THE fortress of Kaukeban still holds out, though closely besieged by the Turkish troops. It is said that a regular siege train is *en route* to Kaukeban with some foreign officers, and it is expected that the place may thus fall. In the meantime the Turks are threatened with an attack from the Asseerees.

The Sultan of Lahej returned to his capital on the 28th of October.

The residency steamer "Quangtung," B. M., arrived from Suez yesterday morning.

(Signed) J. W. SCHNEIDER, *Brigadier-General, Resident, Aden.*

Inclosure 14 in No. 21.

The Governor-General of India in Council to the Duke of Argyll.

Fort William, January 10, 1873.

My Lord Duke,

IN continuation of our despatch dated 3rd instant, and with reference to the telegram to your Grace's address of the 6th instant, we have the honour to forward, for the information of Her Majesty's Government, copy of the papers specified in the accompanying Abstract of Contents relating to the proceedings of the Turks at Yemen, and their threatened interference with the tribes in the vicinity of Aden.

2. In our telegram above alluded to we invited your Grace's attention to Lord Palmerston's despatch dated the 24th May, 1838, which forms an inclosure of the letter from the Secret Committee of the Court of Directors dated the 30th idem.

3. Your Grace will observe that the Sultan of Lahej was regarded by the British Government as an independent sovereign so far back as 1802, when a separate Convention was concluded with him. Since that time we have entered into other engagements with the Sultan and with the Chiefs of other tribes in the vicinity of Aden, and we cannot now view with indifference any attempt on the part of the Turks to interfere with those Chiefs with whom we have so long held direct relations as independent Powers.

4. The question, however, is one of Imperial policy, and we would beg your Grace to move Her Majesty's Government to take immediate measures for preventing the aggressive proceedings of the Turkish officers in Yemen which threaten to be most injurious to our position and interests at Aden.

We have, &c.

(Signed) NORTHBROOK.
R. TEMPLE.
B. H. ELLIS.
H. W. NORMAN.
A. HOBHOUSE.
E. C. BAYLEY.

Inclosure 15 in No. 21.

Mr. Gonne to Mr. Aitchison.

Bombay Castle, November 12, 1872.

REFERRING to this Office, dated 19th August last, regarding the proceedings of the Turks in Yemen, I am directed to transmit herewith, for submission to the Government of India, copy of a further letter, and of its accompaniments on this subject, from the Political Resident at Aden, dated 26th ultimo.

Inclosure 16 in No. 21.

Brigadier-General Schneider to Mr. Gonne, Aden, October 26, 1872.

[See Inclosure in No. 5.]

Inclosure 17 in No. 21.

Mr. Gonne to Mr. Aitchinson.

Bombay Castle, December 4, 1872.

IN continuation of this Office, dated 12th ultimo, I am directed to forward herewith, for submission to the Government of India, copy of a letter dated 20th idem, from the Political Resident at Aden, submitting further report in connection with the proceedings of the Turks in Yemen.

Inclosure 18 in No. 21.

Brigadier-General Schneider to Mr. Gonne.

Aden, November 20, 1872.

IN continuation of my letters, respectively dated the 6th August and the 26th October, 1872, I have the honour to inform Government that a report having reached me from a trustworthy source to the effect that Sultan Ali-bin-Mana of the Howshebee tribe was on the point of visiting the Mushir Ahmed Mukhtar Pasha at Sana, I deputed a special messenger to Zaida with instructions to ascertain, if possible, the true state of the case. This messenger returned to Aden yesterday morning, and reported that on inquiry he had learned that one Sheikh Mohideen had returned to Sana as the bearer of a letter to the Pasha from the Howshebee Chief, in which the latter intimated he would shortly proceed to the capital in person. After Sheikh Mohideen's departure, however, the Sultan is said to have consulted with his relatives and the elders of his tribe, and these advised him not to go himself but to send four of his principal adherents. Acting on this recommendation, he despatched them at once, and they overtook Sheikh Mohideen at Mawuja near Taizz. They informed the Sheikh that the Sultan had sent them as his representatives to accompany him to Sana, and were told in reply that the Pasha had no wish to see them; that his business was solely with Sultan Ali-bin-Mana, and that if the Howshebee Chief were willing to come, he should do so, and if not, his refusal would be accepted as evidence of contumacy. The four emissaries returned to the Sultan and delivered their message. The Sultan sent two of them back to Sheikh Mohideen to ask if he might be permitted to remain in his country until the Ramadhan Eed was over, when he would certainly go to Sana. It was generally supposed that if the Sheikh withheld his consent to this proposal, the Sultan would immediately proceed to that city.

2. I purpose to send this messenger a second time to the Howshebee country, and shall not fail to keep Government acquainted with any matters of interest in connection with the attempts which the authorities of Sana are evidently making to extend their influence amongst the tribes in the neighbourhood of Aden.

Note.—A copy of this letter will be forwarded to Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for India.

Inclosure 19 in No. 21.

Mr. Gonne to Mr. Aitchison.

Bombay Castle, December 22, 1872.

IN continuation of the letter from this Office, dated the 14th instant, I have the honour, by direction of his Excellency the Governor in Council, to forward, for the information of the Government of India, the accompanying copy of a news report received from the Resident at Aden.

Inclosure 20 in No. 21.

News Report from Aden from the 6th to the 14th December, 1872.

Aden, December 14, 1872.

IT is reported that a steamer has arrived at Hodeida for the relief of the Turkish troops at Yemen, and also with plant to establish telegraphic communication between that port and Sana.

The fortress of Kaukeban has capitulated to the Turkish Commander, and as importance is attached to this capture by Mushir Ahmed Mukhtar, Pasha of Yemen, the news has been published by a Circular letter throughout the province as well as to some of the Rulers in the Tehama.

The Portuguese transport ship "India" returned to Aden from the Mozambique on the 10th December after conveying the gun-boats "Sena" and "Tete" to their destination.

(Signed) J. W. SCHNEIDER, *Brigadier-General, Political Resident, Aden.*

Inclosure 21 in No. 21.

Mr. Gonne to Mr. Aitchison.

Bombay Castle, December 30, 1872.

IN continuation of mine of the 4th ultimo, regarding the proceedings of the Turks in Yemen, I am directed to forward herewith, for submission to the Government of India, copy of a further letter from the Political Resident at Aden, dated 10th instant, giving cover to a communication from the Sultan of Lahej on the above subject.

Inclosure 22 in No. 21.

Brigadier-General Schneider to Mr. Gonne, Aden, December 10, 1872.

[See Inclosure in No. 20.]

Inclosure 23 in No. 21.

Mr. Gonne to Mr. Aitchison.

(Telegraphic.) *Bombay, January* 5, 1873.

RESIDENT, Aden, telegraphs as follows:—I forward copy of a telegram addressed by me this day to Secretary of State:—"The Sultan of Lahej just visited me, expecting a hostile movement by the Turks against his country. He claims our protection. I request instruction by telegraph to my letter of 26th October last, addressed to Bombay Government, copy of which was forwarded to your Grace."

Inclosure 24 in No. 21.

Mr. Gonne to Viceroy of India.

(Telegraphic.) *Bombay, January* 5, 1873.

FOLLOWING telegram from Sir Bartle Frere, Aden, to me:—"Turkish (3123) against tribes round Aden very serious. Mushir threatens Lahej, whence Aden draws supplies. Unless this be promptly stopped Mushir will hold power to starve our garrison or quadruple our Commissariat expenses. Telegram ends. Repetition of groups of numbers obviously imperfect has been called for from Aden. I propose sending reply as follows:—'Instruct Resident to inform Mushir that operations against Lahej will be regarded as unfriendly to ourselves.' Telegraph reply."

Inclosure 25 in No. 21.

Mr. Aitchison to Mr. Gonne.

Calcutta, January 6, 1873.

YOURS of 5th and Governor's to Viceroy regarding Sultan of Lahej. Viceroy desires Aden Resident may be instructed to address Pasha at once, calling upon him to suspend all demonstration or action against chiefs and tribes round Aden with whom we have political relations, pending instructions from his Government. Resident should inform Pasha that any proceedings of the kind are likely to raise serious questions between England and Porte, and if persisted in will be considered as an unfriendly act on Pasha's part towards Great Britain. Should Pasha persevere in spite of this warning, Resident must telegraph at once, suggesting whether any and what moral and material support can be given to the Sultan to enable him to hold his own till the question can be settled by diplomatic action.

Inclosure 26 in No. 21.

The Governor of Bombay to the Viceroy of India.

Parell, January 8, 1873.

(Telegraphic.)

BRIGADIER, Aden, reports Turks armed with Sniders. Urgently requests some for native regiments. Very serious question affecting whole native army. Shall we send them? An European regiment might be sent instead, if preferred.

Inclosure 27 in No. 21.

Viceroy of India to the Governor of Bombay.

Calcutta, January 8, 1873.

(Telegraphic.)

DO not send Sniders or European regiment. Give Brigadier positive order not to engage in any hostilities without distinct orders from Calcutta, but to carry out orders received, keeping Government fully informed.

Inclosure 28 in No. 21.

The Governor of Bombay to the Viceroy of India.

Parell, January 9, 1873.

(Telegraphic)

RESIDENT, Aden, reports yesterday that Aden troop of artillery were patrolled according to usual custom, near Lahej. Since then your instructions, received this morning, have been communicated to him, and he replies he fully understands him.

Inclosure 29 in No. 21.

Brigadier-General Schneider to the Duke of Argyll.

Aden, January 4, 1873.

My Lord Duke,

I DO myself the honour to forward a copy of my despatch of this day's date to the Government of Bombay.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. W. SCHNEIDER.

Inclosure 30 in No. 21.

Brigadier-General Schneider to Mr. Gonne.

Aden, January 4, 1873.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to annex copy of a letter addressed to me by the Sultan of Lahej on the 1st January, 1873, requesting me to meet him on the 3rd idem at Shaik

Othman. Circumstances prevented my complying with His Highness' desire, and I accordingly suggested he should visit me at the Residency.

2. The Sultan, on arrival, told me that he had received reliable information that the Pasha in command of the Turkish troops at Taizz was pressing and collecting 300 camels, and contemplated an early descent into the Lahej territory. The Sultan showed me a letter he had received from the emissary who visited him sometime since on the part of Mushir Ahmed Mukhtar, the Commander-in-chief and Pasha of Yemen, in which it was said, that unless he had some distinct assurance of support from the British Government, his country would most assuredly be overrun and occupied by the Turkish forces. Further communications were also read to me, in which threats were addressed to the Soobahees who inhabit the country bordering on the sea from Ras Imaan to Bab-el-Mandeb, intimating that, unless they give in their adhesion to the Turks, they would suffer, and their country be seized; and the Sultan informed me that the Sheikhs of the tribe had tendered their allegiance to the Turks.

3. In my letter of the 30th November, 1872, I communicated to Government, that Ali bin Mana, the Howshebee, was on the point of visiting the Turkish Commander at Sana. I have now ascertained that the Sultan was seen at Mawiya, on the road to Taizz, with a retinue of followers and two horses, which it was said he intended to present to Suleiman Bey, the Governor of that district. It was reported Ali-bin-Mana, the Howshebee, has declared he would not leave Suleiman Bey until he had received assistance to enable him to recover Zaida from the Sultan of Lahej. Government were informed in my communication of the 6th August, 1872, that the Howshebee Sultan did not entertain friendly sentiments towards the Sultan of Lahej, and that he supposed an alliance with the Turks might turn out to his advantage.

4. It will be readily understood that, with what is going on around him, the Sultan of Lahej entertains a great anxiety as to the course Government propose to follow, and naturally claims its protection. He begged me to address a letter direct to Mushir Ahmed Mukhtar Pasha, stating His Highness was our ally, and that Treaty obligations existed between him and the British Government; but as I considered Her Majesty's Government cannot have been indifferent to the many representations that must have reached it, from India as well as through this Residency, I did not think I should be justified at present in setting aside the instructions contained under Government Resolution No. 4,009 of the 5th July, 1872, in the Political Department, which require the Resident to report all he learns regarding the proceedings of the Turks and the feelings of the Chiefs around Aden towards them, without in any way interfering or taking action without direct orders from Government.

5. I informed the Sultan of Lahej that I could not suppose the Turks would make a hostile movement against his country; but that, as I had received no communication in respect of the report I had made on his behalf in my letter of the 26th October, 1872, I would address Government and the Secretary of State for India on the subject of his visit.

6. I beg to annex copy of a telegram sent to you yesterday:—

"I forward copy of a telegram addressed by me this day to Secretary of State:—

"The Sultan of Lahej has just visited me, expecting a hostile movement by the Turks against his country. He claims our protection. I request instructions by telegram to my letter of 26th October last, addressed to Bombay Government, copy of which was forwarded to your Grace."

7. Copy of this letter and its annexment has been forwarded to the Secretary of State for India.

I have, &c.
(Signed) SCHNEIDER.

Inclosure 31 in No. 21.

Sultan Fadhl bin Mohsin to General Schneider.

(Translation.)

Aden, January 1, 1873.

(After compliments.)

I INFORM you that I have made up my mind to see you on Friday, the 3rd Al Kanda (the 3rd January, 1873), at Shaik Othman, at Hasan Ali's bungalow. I beg you will make yourself ready on that day, because I want to see you, and to tell you about some very important business relating to us, which I have not been negligent in putting off

from me, as I kept patience, according to your desire; but I see now that injury is approaching, without doubt. A friend prefers such of his friends as will comfort him. Please excuse me, and kindly come to Sheik Othman to see me. Perhaps the interview will last some time, and conduce to the comfort of your friend.

Inclosure 32 in No. 21.

Brigadier-General Schneider to the Duke of Argyll.

Aden, January 4, 1873.

My Lord Duke,

I DO myself the honour to forward a copy of a despatch I have this day addressed to the Government of Bombay.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. W. SCHNEIDER.

Inclosure 33 in No. 21.

Brigadier-General Schneider to Mr. Gonne.

Aden, January 4, 1873.

Sir,

A REPORT has reached me that Ahmed Mukhtar Pasha, the Commander-in-chief in Yemen, has dispatched a letter to Hodeida to await the return of Syed Fazil, the banished Mophti Pangul, from Mecca, and that the Pangul will embark in one of two steamers that are about to sail from Hodeida to Shuhur and Maculla.

2. I have received no information touching the object of the visit of these steamers to the ports of Shuhur and Maculla; but it may be safely assumed that it must be connected with the extension of the Turkish influence and power on the littoral of Arabia.

3. Copies of this letter will be forwarded to the Secretary of State for India, and to the Government of Madras.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. W. SCHNEIDER.

Inclosure 34 in No. 21.

Brigadier-General Schneider to the Duke of Argyll.

Aden, January 7, 1873.

My Lord Duke,

I DO myself the honour to forward a copy of my despatch of this day's date to the Government of Bombay.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. W. SCHNEIDER.

Inclosure 35 in No. 22.

Brigadier-General Schneider to Mr. Gonne.

Aden, January 7, 1873.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your telegram, dated the 5th January, from his Excellency the Governor of Bombay, to the address of Sir Bartle Frere, in reply to a message forwarded by the latter, on the 4th idem in cypher. It was to the following effect:—

"Turkish aggressions against tribes round Aden very serious. Mushir threatens Lahej whence Aden draws supplies. Unless this is promptly stopped Mushir will hold power to starve our garrison or quadruple our Commissariat expenses."

2. A similar message was transmitted on the same day to the Secretary of State for India.

3. In the telegrams sent on the 5th January by his Excellency the Governor of Bombay, Sir Bartle Frere was requested to state the views of the Resident, and as he had sailed in Her Majesty's yacht "Enchantress" the day before it arrived, I replied on the

6th January as follows, in cypher, when repeating certain numbers that had been found unintelligible in the Envoy's message:—

"Resident thinks our Ambassador at Constantinople should be instructed to inform the Turkish Government immediately that a movement against the Sultan of Lahej, or any tribe under Treaty relations with the British, would be regarded as a hostile act against British interests."

4. In my letter of the 4th January, 1873, I forwarded copy of a telegram addressed by me on the preceding day to the Secretary of State for India, and to this communication I have now received the following reply:—

"Your message of 3rd, and Sir Bartle Frere's of 5th, received. Immediate attention will be paid."

5. Since writing the letter referred to in the preceding paragraph information has reached me of the return of Ali bin Mana, the Howshebee Sultan from his visit to Suleiman Bey the Governor of Taizz, where he was honourably received and presented with a robe of honour. It is said he brought back with him letters from the Bey for the Ameer and the Yaffaee, Foodhlee, Alowee, and Akrabee Chiefs, which have been forwarded to them.

6. The circumstances I have recently brought to notice both by letter and telegram will not fail to show Government how necessary it is that decided action should be taken to put a stop to the persistent intrigues, and as it is believed meditated aggressions on the Chiefs in the neighbourhood of Aden.

7. I have dispatched fifty sabres of the Aden Troop, under the command of Captain Erskine, to patrol according to annual practice on the Lahej territory, for the ostensible purpose of acquiring information and keeping up friendly intercourse with the people of this principality with whom we are now so intimately associated. I have directed Captain Erskine to stay some days at Hota the capital of the Sultan, and I know his presence there will be most acceptable to His Highness. I have no doubt intimation will reach Suleiman Bey at Taizz of the arrival of a British detachment of cavalry at Lahej.

8. A copy of this despatch will be forwarded for the information of the Secretary of State for India.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. W. SCHNEIDER.

Inclosure 36 in No. 21.

Brigadier-General Schneider to the Duke of Argyll.

Aden, January 9, 1873.

My Lord Duke,

I DO myself the honour to forward a copy of my despatch of this day's date to the Government of Bombay.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. W. SCHNEIDER.

Inclosure 37 in No. 21.

Brigadier-General Schneider to Mr. Gonne.

Aden, January 8, 1873.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of a telegram in cypher from his Excellency the Governor, dated 7th January, to which I replied as follows on the next morning in converted cypher:—

"Read in converted cypher. I have addressed the Pasha as directed in telegram of 7th. Instructions in latter part are noted. The Aden troop is now patrolling in Lahej ostensibly according to annual practice, but in reality as a moral support to the Sultan."

I beg to subjoin a copy of my letter to the Pasha, which I dispatched to Sana by special messenger to-day, in conformity with his Excellency's orders. It must reach him, I am assured, in eight days, the distance being close on 400 miles.

"To his Excellency the Mushir Ahmed Mukhtar Pasha, Wali of Yemen.

"Be it known to your Excellency it has been intimated to us from time to time that you and the Turkish officer in command at Taizz have made overtures to the Sultan

of Lahej and other Chiefs in the neighbourhood of Aden, inviting them to give in their adherence to the Sublime Porte.

"We have now received orders from the Great Government of India to address you at once, and call upon your Excellency to suspend all demonstrations and action against the Chiefs round Aden, with whom we have political relations, pending instructions that you may receive from your Government.

"We are further to inform you that any proceedings of the kind above referred to are likely to raise serious questions between England and the Ottoman Porte, and if persisted in will be considered as an unfriendly act on your part towards Great Britain."

"Be pleased, &c.

(Signed) "J. W. SCHNEIDER, *Brigadier-General,*
"*Political Resident, Aden.*"

3. The above communication was transmitted to the Pasha in the Arabic and also in the English language, as I understand he speaks the latter.

4. Copy of this letter will be transmitted to the Secretary of State for India.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. W. SCHNEIDER.

Inclosure 38 in No. 21.

Brigadier General Schneider to the Duke of Argyll.

Aden, January 8, 1873.

My Lord Duke,

I DO myself the honour to forward a copy of my despatch of this day's date to the Government of Bombay.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. W. SCHNEIDER.

Inclosure 39 in No. 21.

Brigadier-General Schneider to Mr. Gonne.

Aden, January 9, 1873.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to forward, for submission to his Excellency the Governor in Council, copy of a letter that I thought it proper to send to Sultan Ali bin Mana, the Howshebee, relative to his recent visit to Suleiman Bey, the Governor of Taizz.

2. Copy of this communication, and of the above-mentioned letter, will be forwarded to the Secretary of State for India.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. W. SCHNEIDER

Inclosure 40 in No. 21.

Brigadier-General Schneider to Sultan Ali bin Mana.

January 8, 1873.

(After compliments.)

WE inform yow that we have lately received an intimation that you have left your country and travelled to Taizz, in order to have an interview with Suleiman Bey, the Governor.

You are aware that we have always looked upon you as our friend and ally, and we consequently felt some surprise when we heard of these proceedings on your part. We trust that in future you will not fail to acquaint us with your intentions, and accept the advice which we offer regarding them. We feel sure you will remember that the Great Government has been the fast friend of both your father and of yourself, and will always be glad to hear of your acting in accordance with its wishes, which are now made known to you.

Inclosure 41 in No. 21.

Brigadier-General Schneider to the Duke of Argyll.

Aden, January 11, 1873.

My Lord Duke,

I DO myself the honour to transmit a copy of my despatch of this day's date to the Government of Bombay.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. W. SCHNEIDER.

Inclosure 42 in No. 21.

Brigadier-General Schneider to Mr. Gonne.

Aden, January 11, 1873.

Sir,

IN my letter of the 9th instant I advised the Government I considered it proper to address Sultan Ali bin Mana, the Howshebee, and I transmitted copy of my letter to that Chief.

2. I have now received a reply from Ali bin Mana, in which he reports he went to Taizz to make settlement for his country in consequence of the many letters he received from the Mootasarif Suleiman Bey, and that in so doing he merely followed the example of other chiefs who are going to him.

3. The Sultan professes he will always obey the desires of the Resident, whether it be for good or for bad, and that he will not abandon the friendship of the English Government.

4. The Sultan's letter fully corroborates what I have reported regarding the intrigues of the Turks with the surrounding chiefs, and it is obvious the Howshebee Sultan is trimming his sails, so to say, and waiting on the future to see how events turn out.

5. I am informed the Howshebee was told by Suleiman Bey, the Governor at Taizz, that the Turks would pass through his country presently and arrange his affairs; and that in the meantime he was not to levy any transit dues on Kafellas passing through his country to the Jebel or highlands of Yemen.

6. It has also been mentioned to me that Suleiman Bey is said to have stated that instructions had been asked for from Constantinople as to whether the Turks were to descend into the Tehama or lower country.

7. A copy of this despatch will be forwarded for the information of the Secretary of State for India.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. W. SCHNEIDER.

No. 22.

Sir H. Elliot to Earl Granville.—(Received February 14.)

(Telegraphic.) *Constantinople, February 14, 1873, 1 P.M.*

VIZIRIAL orders, founded upon an Imperial rescript, have been forwarded to the Governor-General of the Yemen to abstain from attacking or interfering with the Ruler of Lahej, and directing him to leave matters in their former position.

No. 23.

Earl Granville to Sir H. Elliot.

(No. 28.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, February 15, 1873.

I HAVE received your despatch No. 21 of the 24th ultimo; and I have to state to your Excellency, in reply, that I approve your having communicated to the Porte a Memorandum on the subject of the threatened attack on Lahej.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 24.

Sir H. Elliot to Earl Granville.—(Received February 16.)

(No. 28.)
My Lord, *Constantinople, February 3, 1873.*

THE Grand Vizier called on me two days ago, when I took the opportunity of again speaking to him about the threatened attack on the Sultan or chieftain of Lahej, saying that I had been glad to receive from Khalil Pasha the assurance that no operations should be commenced against him until an understanding had been come to with Her Majesty's Government.

He said the Minister for Foreign Affairs was fully warranted in making the declaration; and, in order to render it more solemn, a decision to that effect had been come to by the Council, and was submitted to the Sultan's approval.

This afternoon I reverted to the subject in conversation with Khalil Pasha, stating the satisfaction with which I heard from the Grand Vizir the repetition of the assurances he had himself given me.

Khalil Pasha replied that the Council of Ministers had determined to act as he had said; but, at the same time, they had decided that he was to attempt to obtain the acquiescence of Her Majesty's Government to the Chief of Lahej making a purely nominal submission to the Sultan without tribute or service being required from him.

I said I hoped he would not make any such proposal, for I could assure him that there was no probability of its being entertained.

I expressed myself in the sense prescribed by your Lordship's despatch No. 15 of the 28rd ultimo, and was able to show his Excellency, from the Memorandum inclosed in it, that the ground now taken up was not new, and that, in 1839, Mehemet Ali, Pasha of Egypt, who was carrying out the subjugation of the Yemen, had stated that the mountains to the north of the plain of Lahej formed the boundary of Yemen, and that Her Majesty's Government had, at the same time, intimated that they would not see with indifference the subjugation of the independent tribes beyond the Straits of Bab el Mandeb.

It is evident to me that the Porte is most desirous of avoiding all action calculated to give umbrage to Her Majesty's Government, but is embarrassed to find a satisfactory mode of retreating from the position which has been made by the threatening proceedings of the Pasha of Sana.

The Sultan of Lahej having been called upon to make his submission, a demonstration of force, to coerce him in the event of a refusal, had been apparently made on his frontier; and it is feared that an abandonment of the demand might be regarded as a recognition of weakness injurious to the Sultan's authority in the districts now acknowledging it.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

No. 25.

Sir H. Elliot to Earl Granville.—(Received February 16.)

(No. 30.)
My Lord, *Constantinople, February 4, 1873.*

YOUR Lordship has forwarded by your despatch No. 10 of the 23rd ultimo, a Memorandum by Mr. Badger of a conversation with the Turkish Ambassador at Paris, which led him to the conclusion that the Porte was meditating the establishment of the Sultan's authority over the whole seaboard of Arabia from the Red Sea to the Persian Gulf.

I am convinced that Mr. Badger has attached far more importance than they deserved to the expressions of glorification with which Server Pasha seems to have alluded to the recent successes of the Sultan's troops in the province of Yemen, and to their more apocryphal prowess in the Nejd.

The explicit assurances given at the time of Midhat Pasha's expedition that the territory of Muscat and the semi-independent tribes of the Persian Gulf should not be interfered with, may, I believe, remove apprehension with regard to to those ports, but I am not prepared to speak with the same confidence as to pretensions which may be raised to the sovereignty of the whole of the western coast of the Red Sea.

I have avoided going into that point with the Sultan's ministers, not feeling very certain what may be the opinion of Her Majesty's Government with reference to it, for

although it is stated that neither the Turkish nor Egyptian Government has exercised authority over the coast, it must be recollected that the desire of any European Government to obtain possessions there, which might not be considered desirable as far as British interests are concerned, would be much more easily satisfied if the coast is held to belong to the petty chiefs than if regarded as a part of the Sultan's dominions.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

No. 26.

Sir H. Elliot to Earl Granville.—(Received February 16.)

(No. 41.)
My Lord, *Constantinople, February 12, 1873.*

CONSIDERING it of importance that the Porte should be put in full possession of the views of Her Majesty's Government in reference to any hostile operations against the Arab chieftains in the immediate neighbourhood of Aden, as contained in your Lordship's despatch No. 19 of the 30th ultimo, I instructed Mr. Pisani to communicate to Khalil Pasha your Lordship's despatch, leaving with him a French translation of the same.

I have now the honour to transmit to your Lordship a Report from Mr. Pisani of his interview with Khalil Pasha, who repeated anew that the question of Lahej may be considered as settled in the sense wished for by Her Majesty's Government.

I have, &c.
(In the absence of Sir H. Elliot),
(Signed) SIDNEY LOCOCK.

Inclosure in No. 26.

Mr. Pisani to Sir H. Elliot.

Sir, *Pera, February 11, 1873.*

IN obedience to your Excellency's instructions of the 8th instant, I communicated to Khalil Pasha, and left with him a copy in French of Earl Granville's despatch in answer to yours of the 13th ultimo relative to Lahej and Aden. I have likewise read to him your Excellency's despatch of the 13th to his Lordship in order that he might form an exact estimate of what you wrote.

I told his Excellency that you may perhaps have said too much in stating that the Porte looked upon Lahej as forming a part of Yemen, for you imagine it would have been more correct if you had said that the Pasha of Sana being of that opinion had sent the summons to the Chieftain upon that assumption. But the assurances which you have since received of this having been done without reference to the Porte disengages the latter from the responsibility of the initiative, or of its having shared in the impression which was the cause of it, and that you have stated this in subsequent despatches.

Khalil Pasha expressed thanks for your Excellency's explanations, and repeated anew that the question of Lahej may be considered as settled in the sense wished for by Her Majesty's Government.

I have, &c.
(Signed) ET. PISANI.

No. 27.

Sir B. Frere to Earl Granville.—(Received February 17.)

(No. 5.)
My Lord, *"Enchantress," off the Suwahily Coast, January 10, 1873.*

AS intimately connected with the objects of this mission, I have the honour to submit a few remarks on the present attitude of the Turkish Government towards southern and eastern Arabia, especially in the neighbourhood of Aden.

I need not enter at any length into the historical details of the Turkish claims to sovereignty on those coasts. They are noticed sufficiently for my present purpose in the

memorandum by the Rev. Mr. Badger, which I had the honour to submit to your Lordship on the 24th ultimo, and to which I would now specially refer. I would also beg to draw attention to the inclosed note, written I believe by Mr. Badger more than a year ago, in which the Turkish claims to the sovereignty of Nejd, Yemen, and Oman are more fully discussed.

When the British first occupied Aden, those claims were, I believe, put forward diplomatically; but, as I have understood, any recognition of them was then decisively declined by Her Majesty's Government on the broad ground that ages had elapsed since the actual Turkish authority at Aden, or on the Aden coast, had been anything more than a tradition; and that the absence of any permanent or civilized authority had forced upon us the necessity of securing for ourselves a safe port and coaling station for our steamers, near the mouth of the Red Sea; to say nothing of the outrages perpetrated on British shipping by the then Ruler of Aden, which constituted the primary cause of his expulsion from that place.

When at a subsequent period (about 1840) his Highness Mehemet Ali directed a re-occupation of some of the towns and districts in Yemen, which had been abandoned by the Turks as lately as 1834, the authority of the Porte was, I believe, effectually invoked to forbid his advance; the ground of our interference being the disturbing element which his Highness' operations introduced in the relations of the Arab tribes, with which we had become connected since our occupation of Aden.

Since that time our intercourse with the tribes round Aden has greatly extended. Assured by the experience of thirty years that we did not wish to interfere with their independence, or to be on other terms than those of good neighbourhood, the tribes have gradually become more than reconciled to our presence in Aden. Clans which, a generation ago, were constantly attacking or threatening to attack Aden, now furnish a great part of the labour and supplies required by the port and garrison. In fact we have come to be looked on as friends, and to a certain extent as guardians of internal peace, and protectors from external aggression, by tribes at a considerable distance; and we have all the influence which could be derived from a conviction of our power, coupled with the assurance that we do not mean to use it for purposes of selfish aggression.

Aden, from being merely a link in the chain of ports for the English overland communication with India, has become the most important of all the coaling depôts and ports of call for the trade viâ Egypt and the Suez Canal, between Europe, Africa and America on the one side, and India, China, Japan, Australia, and the Islands of the Indian and Eastern Ocean on the other. It is no exaggeration to say that the whole commercial and civilized world trading to the East and Australia, is interested in the maintenance of Aden in its present condition.

This condition is seriously affected by the late proceedings of the Turks in Yemen. For many months past the Resident at Aden and his predecessor have, from time to time, reported on the Turkish advances. On the 26th of October last, General Schneider sent in a despatch containing a very full account of the present state of affairs, coupled with some excellent suggestions as to the course he thought it desirable he should be empowered to take; but, up to the date of my leaving Aden, on the 4th instant, he had received no instructions beyond a caution from the Government of Bombay, founded on a letter of his predecessor's, not to act without orders from Government.

These letters, of which the dates are given in the margin, have doubtless been forwarded by the Secretary of State for India to your Lordship, and I would particularly invite attention to them, as I have taken the opportunity of my being in Aden to satisfy myself, by personal inquiry, that they accurately represent the present position of affairs.

Meantime that position appears to me to be very critical. The Turkish Mushir having pushed his outposts to the edge of the highlands which are in sight of Aden, summoned all the Chiefs of the low country, up to the walls of Aden, to attend and give in their submission to him, and preparations were announced for a descent into the low country, to visit all the tribes which have not obeyed his summons.

As regards Aden, the garrison and port draw their nearest and best supplies of grain, vegetables, fruit, forage, firewood, meat, and above all, fresh water, from the belt of the low country, which intervenes between the sea and the mountains on the road to Sana, which are plainly visible in the distance. There the cattle imported from the African coast are pastured till required for sale to the garrison or shipping, and thousands of the Arab inhabitants of the plain country furnish day labour in Aden, which, a few years ago, was imported, at great expense, from India or Africa. Any interruption of these supplies, or any disturbance of the peace in the country from whence they are

drawn, would affect Aden like a hostile investment. Supplies would still be brought in by sea from a distance, but they would be inferior in quality, and so much more costly that the increase of commissariat charges alone would form a very serious addition to the cost of the garrison. Water would still be supplied from brackish wells, and by the condensing apparatus; but it would be enormously dearer, and probably scurvy and other analogous diseases, which used to be the scourge of Aden, but are now rarely seen, would reappear. The shipping would feel the change even more than the inhabitants and garrison; and, except for coal, few ships, save those in distress, would come to call for supplies of which many kinds are now, as compared with former years, cheap and abundant, notwithstanding the enormously increased demand.

To produce all this inconvenience it is not necessary that the Turks should act in any way hostilely towards us. A military demonstration such as the Resident reports is now threatened, or the employment of a few thousand Arab levies to occupy Lahej, would eat up the country as effectually as a hostile army, and the blundering or oppression, which are not unknown in distant Turkish Pashalicks, might paralyze agriculture, for months or years, before the cry for redress was heard at Constantinople.

The principal local authority on this lowland strip is the Sultan of Lahej, who, as Chief of the Abdalee, a large tribe of agricultural habits, receives a stipend of £. per annum for his services in keeping open and protecting roads, and as compensation for some interest he formerly had in the revenues of Aden itself before we occupied it.

The Musheer had sent him a summons as far back as August last, calling him to attend the Turkish camp. The summons is a turgid, inflated document, appealing to the Chief, partly on grounds alluded to rather than clearly expressed, of former allegiance to the Sublime Porte; but more distinctly as a dutiful Muslim, who ought to be glad to recognize the advent of the legitimate Khalifah.

To this, by the President's advice, the Chief of Lahej replied by referring to his position as a subsidiary of the British Government, and bound to act under British advice. This was reported by the Resident in October, and instructions asked for, but none have been received by the Resident nor has the Musheer vouchsafed to notice the reference to the British Government otherwise than by the collection of camels and by making preparations in the hill country, which are supposed to be intended for an advance in the low country of Lahej.

The Chief is naturally in a state of the utmost alarm, and came into Aden, while I was staying at the Residency, to ask General Schneider's advice, which, in the absence of instructions from England or India, it was not easy to get.

The Chief's neighbours on either side—tribes whose country is in sight of Aden and who help to supply it—have already, after waiting several months for some sign from the Resident, declared their intention to give in their submission to the Musheer. As both have, after the manner of most Arab tribes, some chronic feuds with their neighbour at Lahej, the latter Chief feels doubly uneasy at the prospect of these inter-tribal quarrels being taken up by such a formidable arbitrator as a Turkish Musheer. The position would, I submit, be a grave one, if only Aden were concerned. It is no slight matter that the supplies of the port and garrison should be dependent on the good-will, and be liable to be interrupted by the mistakes, *insouciance*, or corruption of the underlings of the most friendly of Pashas, far removed from his immediate supervision, and further still from appeal to the Porte.

Moreover, were the Turks ever so friendly and discreet, their settlement in the neighbourhood of Aden, the recognition of their authority by some tribes and their non-recognition by others, must inevitably introduce anarchy throughout the district, lead to insecurity of roads, the stoppage of supplies, and a state of ferment and petty warfare destructive of all the beneficial effects of our peaceful policy in that quarter. The condition, indeed, under such circumstances would be far worse than when we had only inimical Arab tribes to deal with; for we could deal with them without any check other than what our own sense of justice imposed; whilst we could scarcely do the same with the recognized subjects of the Porte.

In the interests then of Aden alone, I submit that a line must be strictly drawn, and the Turks must understand that we cannot admit their right to interfere with any of those tribes on which Aden depends for its supplies. For this purpose the water-shed of the line of hills would be the nearest tolerable boundary. But as regards India, what the Turks are doing seems to me fraught with great and immediate risk of mischief, even if their operations extend no further than they have done hitherto.

It is to be noted that the Musheer, in his letter to the Lahej Chief, dwells more on the restoration of the Khalifah's authority than on the re-appearance of the Osmanly Sultan's flag. This preference points to a distinction which will be commented on with

very inflammatory and possibly contagious enthusiasm wherever Sunnees form a large element in the Muslim population. Even without this distinction being noted, the Turks could hardly enter Oman, or descend on the coast of Hadhramaut, or anywhere east of Aden, without creating a ferment among the Sunnees, to whom the re-establishment of a Khalifate over Arabia, even in the person of an Osmanly Sultan, would be an object of religious enthusiasm; and such, be it remembered, is the ground of the claims which the Turks are now putting forward to be the rightful Sovereigns over the whole of Arabia and, if of Arabia, then of the entire Muslim world.

Hadhramaut, from a point close by Aden, to Ras-el-Hadd, has long been the chief nursery of the Arab levies, which go to seek service at the Nizam's, Hyderabad, and elsewhere, as soldiers of fortune in India. How troublesome they have been in times past I need not tell your Lordship. Of late years they have been discouraged, but they are still an influential body, and give occasional cause for anxiety, even when a strong and enlightened Government has been established. I have little doubt Sir Salar Jung, at Hyderabad, will confirm my impression of the mischief which might be caused among his Hadramautee Arabs and their fellow Sunnees, including most Afghans, Sindies, and the people of Turkestan, by a manifesto couched in such terms as the Musheer's letter to Lahej. Such documents circulate rapidly, by the agency of travelling dervishes and pilgrims, to every mosque in India. Most educated Muslims are, in theory at least, inexorably logical; and I should not be surprised if many thousands of them in India were to draw from such manifestoes the unintended but logical inference that, if the Khalifat had indeed re-asserted itself with power, here was precisely the leading authority for which the 40,0 00,0 00 of Indian Muslims have for years been longing.

Hence, I would submit in the interests of India that a distinct explanation is due from the Porte as to the extent to which its officers are authorized to use this line of argument, and suggest the motives dwelt on in the Musheer's letter.

It may be merely the enthusiastic utterance of some day-dreamer, thoughtlessly adopted by an active soldier. In such case it would be well that the Turkish officers on their frontiers should be warned to be more discreet in future.

If, on the other hand, the letter speaks in the usual tone which has been deliberately adopted by the Turkish Government, we must, I suppose, allow the writers to be the best judges of the language most appropriate to express their own Sovereign's will and their national aspirations. But I feel sure we cannot be too careful how we permit such documents to circulate unchallenged amid such inflammable material as may be found among the 40,000,000 of Her Majesty's Muslim subjects and allies in India and in its vicinity.

Had this question of the Turkish claims to Arabian sovereignty affected Aden and India only, I should still have deemed little apology necessary for troubling your Lordship with these remarks on a subject of such importance. But it will be evident that the matter is one of vital moment to all connected with the East African Slave Trade.

As far as I am aware the whole of our existing agreements on the subject of the Slave Trade with the Turkish Government are based on the state of things which existed before the Suez Canal was opened, when, beyond the Red Sea, the Turks had few or no vessels of their own in Arabian or Persian waters, and when there was little temptation to use their flag to cover slave-trading vessels. But the case is much altered now; and, as reported in my despatch No. 7 of this day's date, the Turkish flag is said already to cover an active and increasing Slave Trade, often carried on in steamers subsidized by the Government, and connived at by even the higher officials; whilst our powers by Treaty are so limited and our Agency both naval and Consular so defective, that we can do little to stop the evil, or even to obtain clear proofs of its extent.

Hence, I feel assured that a Turkish occupation of the Arabian coast will thwart our anti-slavery policy by affording the protection of the Ottoman flag to maritime tribes engaged in the slave traffic. The immunity the flag will afford from search and condemnation will be a very great inducement to adopt it, and thus to submit to Turkish rule. How much slavery has been promoted by the French flag indiscriminately given to native vessels on the East Coast of Africa is well known. Let a similar protection be offered by Turkey, and I fear few of the maritime slave-trading chiefs would resist the temptation to accept it, even at the cost of their independence.

I would, therefore, submit that, whatever may be said to the Turkish Government on the general subject of their advances along the Arabian coast, a very clear understanding should be come to as to the line they intend to take in this matter of slavery.

The Turkish Government was formerly honourably distinguished as being in advance of many Christian Powers in this matter. If they wish to retain this distinction, a

revision of our Treaty engagements must be at once undertaken, such as shall give us ampler powers of detention and examination of vessels under their flag, and the Turkish Government should be required to place such safeguards on the grant of the flag to Arab vessels as shall secure the flag from all risk of prostitution to serve the purpose of the Arab slave-dealer.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. B. E. FRERE.

Inclosure in No. 26*.

Extract from the "Overland Mail" of December 1, 1871.

SELIM I, after the conquest of Mesopotamia, Syria, and Egypt (A.D. 1512-19) obtained from a lineal descendant of the fallen dynasty of the El-Abbas, the renunciation of the Khalifate in his favour—spiritually, by no means an empty privilege, inasmuch as it still invests the Ottoman Sultans, as Commanders of the Faithful, with sovereign rights over the Holy Places of Islam—politically, the investiture added nothing but barren claims to Selim's ascendency; for, on the accession of the Beni-Abbas or Abbaside Khalifahs (A.D. 749) the Empire founded by Abu-Bekr and Othman, the two immediate successors of Muhammad, had lost a vast portion of its dominions, and before the death of Harun-el-Rashid (A.D. 786) independent sovereignties had been established in Yemen and Il-Aseir, in Nejd and Oman, and along the southern shores of the Persian Gulf.

Selim's victories were followed up by his son and successor, Suleiman I, during whose long and prosperous reign (A.D. 1519-66) the Turks occupied the entire seaboard of the Red Sea from Suez to Aden, successfully invaded Yemen, garrisoned Massowah, and made tributary most of the native Chiefs on the opposite or western coast. But, at best, the authority of the Turks in that quarter was precarious, and, as early as A.D. 1630, they were expelled from Yemen, where a second dynasty of native Imams had been set up, who ruled over a large portion of that province, including the ports of Mokha and Aden, to say nothing of a host of other chiefdoms whose jurisdiction confined the Turks to a few fortified positions on the coast.

Matters remained in this state until the beginning of the present century, when the successes of the Wahhabees in the Hejaz induced their co-religionists, the Beni-Aseir, to attempt the subjugation of Yemen. They were thwarted by Muhammad Aly Pasha and his son Ibrahim, who after expelling the Wahhabees from the Holy Places and destroying their capital, El-Dariyyah, turned their attention to that province, seized Konfodah and Loheia on the coast, and exacted a yearly tribute from the Imam of Sana. The prolonged struggle which subsequently took place between the Porte and the Viceroy of Egypt brought them into collision in the Red Sea, and in 1840 resulted in the evacuation of Yemen by the latter. Mokha was then occupied by the Shereef of Abu-Arish, who agreed to pay the Porte an annual tribute; but hostilities breaking out between him and the Imam, the Turks intervened and resumed possession of El-Hodeida and all the towns of the Tehama, or low country. Their successes about this time (A.D. 1849) terrified the Imam into complying with their demand to surrender all his dominions to the Ottoman Porte; but on the arrival of the Turkish troops to take possession of Sana, they were either put to flight or massacred. The only attempt on the part of the Turks to extend their maritime conquests beyond the Red Sea was made a year after, when a force of about 1,000 men was dispatched to seize El-Makullah and Esh-Shehr, on the south-eastern coast of Arabia. They were repulsed with considerable loss by the Nakib of Makullah and obliged to return to Mokha.

Such, briefly stated, are the only ostensible grounds upon which the Ottomans can lay claim to the sovereignty over Yemen and El-Aseir. Their right to Nejd is still less apparent. As already intimated, that province, together with its seaboard on the Persian Gulf, was virtually severed from the jurisdiction of the Khalifate even prior to the rise of the fanatical El-Karamitah (A.D. 889, A.H. 276), who subsequently, under the leadership of the famous Abu-Tahir, became absolute masters of Central Arabia and its maritime dependencies. The eventual extinction of that mighty sect was brought about, not by foreign invasion, but by intestine revolutions, and upon the ruins of its power along the coast sprang up the prosperous townships of El-Katif and El-Hara, which continued in the enjoyment of religious and political independence until both were crushed by the victorious Wahhabees.

The overthrow of the Wahhabee power by Ibrahim Pasha, in 1818, placed Nejd for a time at the disposal of the Egyptians; but their *protégés*, the Beni-Khalid, were subsequently dispossessed by Turky-bin-Saeed, who re-established the Wahhabee Empire in Nejd, and re-captured El-Hara and El-Katif. In 1836 the Egyptians again intervened in the affairs of Nejd, and after seizing the Ameer Faisal and occupying the above named towns, openly declared their intention of retaining them, and of further extending their conquests. Our Home and Indian Governments of the time, regarding these movements as unjustifiable encroachments, and having frequently remonstrated in vain with Muhammad-Aly, determined to arrest them, and preparations were being made to blockade the maritime ports when it was announced that the Egyptians had actually evacuated Nejd. Some time after, the Porte advanced a claim to the province, and appointed one Amur Khalid to act as Governor over it; but, notwithstanding the aid which he received from the Egyptians, he was eventually obliged to yield to the superior numbers led by the Wahhabee Faisal, who, in 1843, became absolute Ruler of the whole country. Thus "ebbed away," as Palgrave geographically remarks, "the Egyptian invasion of Nejd, and the rock still stands where it did before the high tide, nor shows a trace of the water-mark."

No. 27.

Earl Granville to Sir H. Elliot.

(No. 48.)
Sir, *Foreign Office, February* 24, 1873.

I HAVE received your despatch No. 28 of the 3rd instant, on the subject of the relations between the Porte and the Sultan of Lahej; and I have to state to your Excellency in reply that I approve the language you held to Khalil Pasha, as reported in that despatch.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 28.

Sir H. Elliot to Earl Granville.—(Received February 25.)

(No. 45.)
My Lord, *Constantinople, February* 14, 1873.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 41 of the 12th instant, I have the honour to inform your Lordship that, at an interview which Mr. Pisani had yesterday with the Grand Vizier, his Highness desired him to name to me that, by Imperial command, he had instructed the Governor-General of the Yemen to abstain from interfering with or molesting in any way the Ruler of Lahej, and leave matters as they formerly stood.

I have, &c.
(In the absence of Sir H. Elliot),
(Signed) SIDNEY LOCOCK.

No. 29.

Mr. Grant Duff to Mr. Hammond.—(Received March 5.)

Sir, *India Office, March* 5, 1873.

I AM directed by the Duke of Argyll to acknowledge receipt of your letters of the 21st, 25th, and 24th ultimo, on the subject of the relations between the Porte and the Sultan of Lahej; and, in reply, I am to express his Grace's hope that Sir Henry Elliot, Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople, may be instructed, in future discussions on this question with the Ottoman Ministers, firmly to maintain the position already taken up by Her Majesty's Government.

I am, &c.
(Signed) M. E. GRANT DUFF.

No. 30.

Earl Granville to Sir H. Elliot.

(No. 52.)
Sir, *Foreign Office, March* 11, 1873.

WITH reference to your Excellency's despatches No. 28 of the 3rd ultimo, and Nos. 41 and 45 of the 12th and 14th ultimo,* on the subject of the relations between the Porte and the Sultan of Lahej, I have to instruct your Excellency, in any future discussions which you may have with the Ottoman Ministers, firmly to maintain the position already taken up by Her Majesty's Government.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 30 A.

Mr. Grant Duff to Mr. Hammond.—(Received March 14.)

Sir, *India Office, March* 13, 1873.

WITH reference to your letter of 1st November, 1871,† I am directed by the Duke of Argyll to forward, for submission to Earl Granville, copy of a despatch from the Government of India, dated 7th February, 1873, respecting the proceedings of the Turks in connection with Shuhur and Maculla; and I am to request that, in laying this paper before his Lordship, you will move him to cause his Grace to be informed whether any reply has yet been received from the Turkish Minister to the communication addressed to him by Sir Henry Elliot, which is referred to in your letter above specified.‡

I am, &c.
(Signed) M. E. GRANT DUFF.

Inclosure 1 in No. 30 A.

The Governor-General of India in Council to the Duke of Argyll.

My Lord Duke, *Fort William, February* 7, 1873.

IN continuation of our despatch dated 3rd January, 1873, we have the honour to forward, for the information of Her Majesty's Government, copies of despatches relative to the proceedings of the Turks in connection with Shuhur and Maculla. We should be glad to be informed whether any reply has yet been received from the Turkish Ministers to the communication addressed to them by Sir H. Elliot, which is referred to in the inclosure of the despatch from the Secretary in the Political and Secret Department, dated 3rd November, 1871.

We have, &c.
(Signed) NORTHBROOK.
R. TEMPLE.
B. H. ELLIS.
H. W. NORMAN.
A. HOBHOUSE.
E. C. BAYLEY.

Inclosure 2 in No. 30 A.

Mr. Gonne to Mr. Aitchison.

Bombay Castle, January 21, 1873.

WITH reference to the correspondence ending with Captain Henderson's letter dated the 27th ultimo, I am directed to forward, for the information of the Government of India, the accompanying copy of a letter from the Political Resident at Aden, of the 4th instant, relating to the movements of the Turks in connection with Shuhur and Maculla.

* Forwarding copies of Nos. 24, 26, and 28.

† See Appendix.

‡ See Appendix for this correspondence.

2. The recent proceedings regarding the deported Moplah Tangul have been reported to the Government of India by the Madras Government in their Consultations dated the 3rd February, 1872.

Inclosure 3 in No. 30 A.

Mr. B. G. Schneider to Mr. Gonne.

Aden, January 4, 1873.

A REPORT has reached me that Ahmed Mukhtar Pasha, the Commander-in-chief in Yemen, has dispatched a letter to Hodaida to await the return of Syud Fazil, the banished Moplah Tangul from Mecca, and that the Tangul will embark in one of two steamers that are about to sail from Hodaida to Shuhur and Maculla.

2. I have received no information touching the object of the visit of these steamers to the ports of Shuhur and Maculla; but it may be safely assumed that it must be connected with the extension of the Turkish influence and power on the littoral of Arabia.

3. Copy of this letter will be forwarded to the Secretary of State for India, and to the Government of Madras.

Inclosure 4 in No. 30 A.

Mr. Aitchison to Mr. Gonne.

Fort William, February 4, 1873.

WITH reference to your letter dated 21st January, 1873, relative to the proceedings of the Turks in connection with Shuhur and Maculla, I am directed by his Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General in Council to request that the Political Resident at Aden may be asked to report any further information which may reach him regarding the movements of Syud Fazil, the Moplah Tangul.

No. 30 B.

Mr. Grant Duff to Mr Hammond.—(Received March 15.)

India Office, March 14, 1873.

Sir,

WITH reference to previous correspondence, terminating with my letter of the 5th instant, I am directed by the Duke of Argyll to forward, for submission to Earl Granville, copies of papers respecting the proceedings of the Turks in the neighbourhood of Aden; and I am to request that, in laying these papers before his Lordship, you will invite his special attention to the despatch from the Government of India, dated 14th February, 1873, containing a statement of their views as to the measures to be adopted to protect those Chiefs with whom the British Government have Treaty relations.

I am to add that, subject to any remark which Earl Granville may think fit to record, his Grace is disposed fully to concur in the policy advocated by the Government of India, and would be glad to learn what steps Earl Granville purposes to take in the matter.

I am, &c.
(Signed) M. GRANT DUFF.

Inclosure 1 in No. 30 B.

The Governor-General of India in Council to the Duke of Argyll.

Fort William, February 14, 1873.

My Lord Duke,

IN continuation of our despatch, dated 7th instant, we have the honour to forward further correspondence on the subject of the aggressive proceedings of the Turkish officers in the neighbourhood of Aden. His Excellency Sir Bartle Frere has reported on

the same subject to Lord Granville in a despatch, dated 18th January, 1873, a copy of which your Grace will doubtless receive from the Foreign Office.

2. From the papers we now forward, your Grace will perceive the very serious complications likely to arise if the local officers of the Turkish Government are not peremptorily forbidden to persevere in the course on which they have entered. Communications have been issued to the Chiefs of the Alowees, the Rijaees, and even, it would seem, the Foodhlees, with a view to induce them to acknowledge the Turkish supremacy. With all of these Chiefs, as your Grace is aware, we have Treaty engagements.

3. From the inclosures of your despatch dated 17th January, 1873, we observe that the Turkish Government, while considering Lahéj as a part of the Province of Yemen, state that no operations have been or will be commenced against Lahej without the orders of the Porte, which will do nothing without communicating with Her Majesty's Government.

4. With reference to this, we would remark that since the year 1735 Lahej has been entirely independent, and for many years before that the Turks ceased to have any influence in the neighbourhood. In 1802 we concluded a Treaty with the Sultan as with an independent Chief, and the arrangements made with the Chiefs round Aden, on the capture of that place in 1839, were engagements with independent Powers paying allegiance to no superior. Ever since our occupation of the settlement of Aden the Turkish Government has neither exercised any actual authority over, or any interference with, those Chiefs; while we have repeatedly made war upon, and concluded Treaties with, the Chiefs and tribes without reference to the Ottoman Porte.

5. We cannot too strongly express our opinion that any interference on the part of the Turkish Government with those Chiefs who have Treaties with, or receive stipends from us, is most dangerous to our interests at Aden, and should be most peremptorily prevented. The assurance which the Turkish Government has given respecting the Sultan of Lahéj is not sufficient, and we are strongly of opinion that nothing will meet the circumstances of the case short of immediate and distinct instructions to the Turkish authorities in Yemen to abstain from all interference, direct or indirect, which has for its object to induce any of the Chiefs who have relations with us to acknowledge the supremacy of the Ottoman Porte. We have called upon the Resident at Aden to submit a list of such Chiefs, which we will forward when received. In the meantime, we have authorized the Resident to inform the Turkish officials at Taizz that perseverence in their present proceedings will be considered an unfriendly act towards the British Government. The Resident will also inform the Chiefs who are threatened of the views entertained by us, and that the proceedings of the Turkish officers are believed not to be authorized by the Government of the Sultan. In the event of these measures proving insufficient to check further encroachments, we shall be prepared, should Her Majesty's Government consider such a course to be desirable, to take the Chiefs directly under our protection, and to engage to defend them from aggressions which, in our opinion, are destructive to the peace of the country and most injurious to British interests at Aden.

We have, &c.
(Signed) NORTHBROOK.
R. TEMPLE.
B. H. ELLIS.
H. W. NORMAN.
A. HOBHOUSE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 30 B.

Mr. Gonne to Mr. Aitchison.

Bombay Castle, February 1, 1873.

REFERRING to the dispatches dated respectively the 21st and 25th ultimo, regarding the movements of the Turks in Yemen, I am directed to forward herewith, for submission to the Government of India, copy of further letters from the Political Resident at Aden on this subject.

Inclosure 3 in No. 30 B.

Brigadier-General Schneider to Mr. Gonne.

Aden, January 16, 1873.

IN continuation of my letter of the 1[illegible] instant, I have the honour to report that Sultan Obood bin Salim, the cousin and [illegible] the reigning Chief of the Katheree tribe, Sultan Mansoor bin Ghalib, paid me a visit yesterday evening.

2. During the conversation that passed [illegible] I learnt that the chief object of Sultan Obood's visit to Sana was to induce [illegible] to interpose in his behalf with the view of removing the restrictions which [illegible] placed upon the commerce of the tribe at the ports of Maculla and Shuhur. [illegible] me in the recollection of Government that, in the year 1866, the Katheree Chief [illegible] the town of Shuhur and threatened Maculla for a considerable time, and that he was subsequently obliged to evacuate the former port by the Kaitee family, who have since remained in possession of it. It appears that since that time the Katherees have not been allowed to make use of either port, and that the tribe has suffered considerable privations in consequence. The Katheree Sultan, therefore, on hearing that the Turks were established in Sana, wrote a letter of complaint to the Mushir, who requested him to send some one with whom he might personally confer. Sultan Obood bin Salim accordingly proceeded to Sana, and without disclosing his real rank had an interview with the Mushir on the subject of the grievances of which complaint had been made. The reply of Ahmed Mukhtar Pasha was to the effect that the affairs of Yemen were not yet completely settled, but that as soon as the country including Lahej had been properly brought under the sway of the Turkish Government, the province of Hadhramaut would be made over to Syud Fazil, the banished Mopla Tangul, to bring into order. A letter was also written by direction of the Mushir to the address of the Katheree Sultan, and dispatched from Sana before Sultan Obood's departure.

3. This expression of the Mushir, if correctly reported, confirms a rumour which has reached me from other sources, and which is to the effect that two Turkish vessels will shortly leave Hodeida for Maculla and Shuhur; that Syud Fazil will embark on one of them, and that he will take possession of the above ports in the name of the Porte, leaving the interior of the Hadhramaut to be governed by the Katheree Sultan in dependence on Governor-General at Sana. I am also informed that a letter from the Mushir is awaiting the arrival of Syud Fazil at Hodeida, at which port he is daily expected.

4. From Sana the Sultan Obood bin Salim proceeded to Taizz, and being recognized there by the Hadhramaut traders of the place, he was received with considerable distinction by the Mootasarif Suleiman Noori Bey. He left Taizz with the force intended for the occupation of Dimnah and Harwah, which he states did not exceed in number 80 Turkish soldiers and 100 of the irregular Arab levies. He describes the total garrison of the city to consist of three regiments of the regular soldier (Nizam), amounting probably to about 2,000 men. He also stated that the Turks were encamped round Sana, and that he thought there might be about 300 small tents capable of containing from five to eight men each.

5. To a request of the Sultan that I would endeavour to induce the Nakeeb of Maculla to open his port to the Katheree tribe, I replied that I was unable to do so at present, but that if I had occasion at any future time to visit that port, I should not fail to use my good offices with this end in view.

6. On taking leave, Sultan Obood informed me that he was desirous of visiting Singapoor before returning to his own country, and that he should probably go *viâ* Bombay, as it was difficult to find a steamer at Aden which would answer his purpose. I think it right to warn Government that if the Sultan proceeds to Bombay it will doubtless be with the intention of visiting Hyderabad, and as such a step would probably be the precursor of future disturbances in Hadhramaut, I shall at once inform Government of his departure from Aden, in order that he may be prevented from leaving Bombay except by sea.

7. Sheikh Shayif bin Saif, the Alowee Chief, arrived in Aden late last evening, and will wait upon me to-morrow.

8. A copy of this letter will be forwarded to the Secretary of State for India.

Inclosure 4 in No. 30 B.

Brigadier-General Schneider to Mr. Gonne.

Aden, January 18, 1873.

IN continuation of paragraph 7 of my letter of the 16th January, 1873, I have the honour to inform Government that Sheikh Shayif bin Sayif, the Alowee Chief, paid me a visit on the afternoon of the 17th idem.

2. After the exchange of a friendly sentiment and mutual good-will, the Chief produced a letter addressed to him by Suleiman Noori Bey, the Mootasarif of Taizz, summoning him to proceed to that place without delay, and stating that on his arrival he would be told for what purpose he was required. This letter the Sheikh informed me had been forwarded to him by Ali bin Mana, the Howshebee, with a communication from this Chief, which was read to me, advising him to go to Taizz, as it would certainly lead to his advantage and honour.

3. The Alowee Chief observed that he had no wish whatever to proceed to Taizz, or to be associated with the Turks in any way, and he asked me what reply he should give to the Mootasarif. I gave him the advice I had given to other Chiefs, and told him he should simply inform Suleiman Noori Bey that he is the stipendiary of the British Government, with whom he has an engagement.

4. The Sheikh then informed me he had 500 fighting men, but that they could not oppose the Turks, to which I observed I did not think he need be under apprehension that he would be attacked. I stated this with reference to the letter that I have recently addressed to the Mushir under the orders of Government, calling upon him to suspend all demonstrations or action against the Chiefs round Aden with whom we have Treaty relations. Sheikh Shayif bin Saif then left me apparently much re-assured, mentioning he was anxious to return as soon as possible to Sohail, where he resides.

5. A copy of this letter will be sent to the Secretary of State for India.

Inclosure 5 in No. 30 B.

Brigadier-General Schneider to Mr. Gonne.

Aden, January 23, 1873.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint Government that I have received a letter from the Ameer Ali bin Monkbil Abdal Hadee, the Chief of Dthali, to the effect that the Turkish troops have taken possession of Kattaba, the district immediately conterminous with that occupied by the Jaowd, Radfan, and other tribes over whom the Ameer rules. He also states that a rumour is prevalent that these troops have been sent by the British, and expresses his desire to adhere to the agreement which exists between himself and the Resident at Aden.

2. The Ameer has received a stipend of 50 dollars per annum from the British Government ever since the capture of Aden, but no written engagement is apparently in existence.

3. In reply, I have addressed him in friendly terms, begging him not to give heed to rumours of this description, and expressing a hope that he will not hesitate to communicate to us any letter which he may receive from the Turkish authorities in Yemen.

4. A copy of this letter will be forwarded to the Secretary of State for India.

Inclosure 6 in No. 30 B.

Brigadier-General Schneider to Mr. Gonne.

Aden, January 24, 1873.

IN paragraph 8 of my letter of 15th January, 1873, I reported to Government that Sheikh Salim bin Abdulla, the Rijnee, one of the principal chiefs of the Soobahee tribe, had proceeded to Taizz. I now learn he has returned from that place, and has visited the Sultan of Lahej at Howta, to whom he showed a document he had received from the Mootasarif, Suleiman Noori, translation of which is annexed.

2. Sheikh Salim bin Abdulla communicated various items of intelligence to the Sultan of Lahej. He confirmed the report that a detachment of Turkish troops was stationed at Dimnah, a place a few miles south-east of Taizz, and added that the Mootasarif

intended to occupy the Kobatee and Athwarree districts, on the borders of the Soobahee country. These places are in Yemen Proper.

3. The Mootasarif is said to have enquired of the Sheikh whether the Lahej and Foodhlee Sultans were on friendly terms, and to have asked many questions relative to the supply of water to Aden, and the amount the Sultan was supposed to receive on this head from the British Government. The Sheikh further informed the Sultan of Lahej that he had been counselled to advise him not to incur the displeasure of the Ottoman Porte, or to rely too much upon the English Government, because the Turks certainly meant to move against him.

4. The above and other unimportant details show how the Turkish authorities are still intriguing around us, and endeavouring to cajole the chiefs with whom we have Treaty relations to support the Ottoman power and encroachments in these parts.

5. I have mentioned that the Rijace is one of the Soobahee Chiefs with whom an engagement was concluded in 1871 for the abolition of transit dues through his territory, and it seems to me that he is at present playing fast and loose, desiring neither to offend the Turks nor the British Government, to whom he has indirectly given information of his proceedings. He is now at Lahej, and I may possibly see him. There has been no breach in his engagements up to this date, for which he receives 40 dollars per mensem.

6. It may be interesting to Government to learn that I have seen a sort of local Gazette printed in Arabic and Turkish at Hodeida, which gives in detail the provinces and their several districts, said to have been conquered, or about to be so, by the Turks. It mentions that these conquests extend from Aden to the Asseeree country, and Lahej is shown as a district in the province of Taizz, which yet remains to be brought under subjection.

7. I have ascertained that Sultan Haidara bin Ahmed, the Foodhlee, states he knows a letter has been addressed to him by the Mootasarif at Taizz; but that he has not received it yet, although he expects it will reach him through the Howshebee Sultan. He expresses no sympathy with the Turkish cause, and declares he has no desire to adhere to any Power other than the British Government.

8. I have received no answer to the letter I addressed to the Mushir Ahmed Mukhtar Pasha of Yemen under the orders of Government on the 8th of January. I believe I may expect a reply about Monday next, the 27th idem, and its substance will be communicated by telegraph.

9. The Aden troop continues to patrol in the Lahej territory.

10. A copy of this letter will be forwarded to the Secretary of State for India.

Annex.

(Translation.)

When we ordered Sheikh Salim bin Abdallah, the Rijace, to wait upon us, he at once came and submitted. According to his desire, we have given him a safe conduct, and treated him with respect and honour. So far as we have observed him, he has given sincere and conscientious proofs of obedience. It was therefore found necessary, by the law of our High Government and its justice, to give him this safe conduct for himself and his people, and his relations, and for every other tribe within his limits, who may be willing to submit to our High Government. This paper conferring safe conduct is efficacious through God and his prophet, and through our Lord the great Sultan, and then through the protection of his Excellency the Governor-General of the district of Yemen. They (*i.e.*, those who bear it) shall not be injured, but if they go with fear they shall return with safety, throughout all parts. They shall not be treated but with favour and kindness, both their headmen and their subjects. They always have to pay obedience, and to submit and to keep peace upon the roads for the wayfarers. Whoever is willing to come to offer submission to us through the mediation of Salim bin Abdallah, the Rijace, peace will be upon him. We have made an agreement with Salim bin Abdallah, the Rijace, for keeping the roads open and giving peace to the subjects of all, and he will always be ready to come at our bidding.

(L.S.) SULEIMAN NOORI (MOOTASARIF).
(L.S.) MOOSA KATIM (MEER LIWA).

Dated 18 *Al-Kaada*, A.H. 1289 (*January* 18, 1873).

Inclosure 7 in No. 30 B.

Brigadier-General Schneider to Mr. Goune.

Aden, January 24, 1873.

SINCE closing my letter of to-day's date, a special messenger whom I had despatched to Taizz has returned to Aden with the following intelligence:—

2. On arriving at Taizz he found that Turkish soldiers were on guard at every gate in the town, and that they were busily engaged in repairing the fortifications and in erecting new defensive works. The camp was situated outside the walls, and, according to the messenger's computation, was composed of ninety-four tents. He also saw the whole of the garrison on parade, and states that the three regiments present did not comprise less than 2,000 men.

3. Two Arab chiefs, Sheikh-ur-Rahman bin Kasim and Sheikh Mohsin, the son and successor of the late Kaid bin Hoossain Aba Ras, of the Dthoo Mahomed tribe, were in occupation of Hurwa, a village situated some miles to the south-westward of Taizz. They are in command of 50 Turkish soldiers and 300 Arab irregulars, and it is stated that they intend to proceed against the Yoosufee, Kobatee, Absee, and Athwaree districts. It is further reported that any further movement against the tribes in the direction of Lahej will be deferred till after the termination of the 'Eid, and that the Turkish Commanders will, in the meantime, employ themselves in settling the newly acquired districts.

4. The messenger further reports that, after the capture of Kattaba the Arabs assembled and made an attack upon the Turkish soldiers who were encamped outside the walls, but were repulsed with a loss of nine men. The force at Kattaba, which is only a few miles distant from the town of Dthali, in the Ameer's country, is said to number 400 regular Turkish troops and a few Arab mercenaries.

5. A copy of this letter will be forwarded to the Secretary of State for India.

Inclosure 8 in No. 30 B.

Mr. Aitchison to Mr. Gonne.

Fort William, February 14, 1873.

WITH reference to your letter, dated 1st February, and subsequent telegrams, I am directed by his Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General in Council, to forward, for the information of the Bombay Government, a copy of a despatch from the Secretary of State, dated 17th January, with inclosures, regarding the proceedings of the Turks in the neighbourhood of Aden.

2. You will perceive that the Turkish Government have given an assurance that no operations have been or will be commenced against Lahej without orders from the Porte, which will do nothing without communicating with Her Majesty's Government. At the same time it is stated that the Governor of Yemen has reported that the Chief of Lahej has attacked and plundered a neighbouring Chieftain who recognizes the authority of the Turkish Government. His Excellency in Council has no recollection of having received information of the occurrence of any circumstance of this kind; and I am to request that the Resident at Aden may be called upon to report without delay whether there are any grounds for the statement.

3. The reply of the Turkish Government to the remonstrance made by Sir H. Elliot under the instructions conveyed in the telegram of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, dated January 11, is limited to Lahej. His Excellency in Council will, however, lay before the Secretary of State the necessity of obtaining assurances that no aggressive action of any kind will be adopted by the Turkish Government towards any of the Chiefs or tribes who have Treaty relations with us, or who receive stipends or allowances from us. It will be convenient if the Resident will at once submit a complete list of such Chiefs and tribes.

4. An early reply to my telegram of 6th January, and my letter dated 31st of January, 1873, regarding the expediency or otherwise of granting support to the Sultan of Lahej, is looked for. In the meantime the Turkish officers at Taizz, referred to in your telegram of yesterday, may be informed that a perseverance in the course they have adopted will be considered by the British Government as an unfriendly act, and those of the Chiefs described in the preceding paragraph who are threatened, may be informed of the view taken by the British Government of the proceedings of the Turkish officers.

Inclosure 9 in No. 30 B.

Mr. Gonne to Mr. Aitchison.

February 12, 1873.

(Telegraphic.)

FOLLOWING from Aden:—The Turkish officers at Taizz continue to address the minor Chiefs in the vicinity of Aden, directing them to come to Taizz. The Ottoman Porte should be requested to put a stop to this, as tending to disturb the postion we hold at Aden.

Inclosure 10 in No. 30 B.

Mr. Aitchison to Mr. Gonne.

February 14, 1873.

(Telegraphic.)

YOURS of 12th. Inform Turkish officers at Taizz that perseverance in efforts to bring under Turkish authority Chiefs or tribes who have Treaty relations with, or receive stipends from, us; considered unfriendly act towards Great Britain. Inform any such Chiefs who are threatened of the view taken by British Government, and that proceedings of the Turkish officers are believed not to be authorized by Turkish Government.

Inclosure 11 in No. 30 B.

Brigadier-General Schneider to the Duke of Argyll.

Aden, February 5, 1873.

My Lord Duke,

I HAVE the honour to transmit, for your Grace's information, copy of my letter of the 5th February, 1873, to the Government of Bombay.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. W. SCHNEIDER.

Inclosure 12 in No. 30 B.

Brigadier-General Schneider to Mr. Gonne.

Aden, February 5, 1873.

Sir,

REFERRING to paragraph 8 of my letter of the 24th January, 1873, I have the honour to report that the communication I addressed to Ahmed Mukhtar Pasha, of Yemen, on the 8th of that month, under the orders of Government, calling upon him to suspend all demonstrations and action against the Chiefs round Aden, with whom we have political relations, pending instructions from the Ottoman Government, was delivered to the Mushir on the 15th idem. Up to the present date he has returned no reply.

2. On the 1st February the brother of the Akrabee Sheikh visited Aden, and showed me a letter, dated the 24th January, that had been received by the family from Sooleiman Noorie, the Mootasarif, renewing his invitation to Sheikh Abdoolla bin Haidra, the Akrabee, to come to him at Taizz, where he would be gladly welcomed and honoured like those who have served the Ottoman Government. The Mootasarif added that, on the Sheikh's arrival, everything would be settled by the kindness and justice of the High Government.

3. The brother of the Akrabee said he had come to the Resident to ask his advice, whereupon I told him I thought it would suffice if the Sheikh wrote in reply that he was under Treaty engagements with the British Government. To this the brother answered that the Akrabee was disposed to go to Taizz to visit the Mootasarif, as he feared to give offence. I could only repeat that I could not advise him to go to Taizz, and that I felt sure the Mootasarif could not be acting in accordance with the orders of the Sublime Porte. This I felt I could say, with reference to Sir H. Elliott's telegram dated Constantinople 13th January, 1873. The brother then left, assuring me the Akrabee would not go to Taizz.

4. I may add that the letter of the Mootasarif contained no threat against the Akrabee Sheikh, but was couched in the most persuasive and polite language.

5. On the 4th February I received a letter,* dated the 2nd idem, from Moosa Kathem Bey, who styles himself the Commander of the army at Taizz. I annex a trans-

* Copy attached in Turkic.

lation of this document, as well as a copy of the original in Arabic. I reported to Government in paragraph 7 of my letter of the 7th January last, that I had dispatched fifty sabres of the Aden troop to patrol in the Lahej territory, according to annual practice, for the ostensible purpose of keeping up friendly intercourse with the people of that Principality, with whom we are now so intimately associated.

6. It will be observed that the news of the presence of a detachment of cavalry at Lahej reached the authorities at Taizz, as I anticipated, and has apparently created some stir. But what I would particularly draw attention to, is the curious pretension advanced by a Turkish subordinate officer, that British troops are not to enter the territory of a Chief with whom the Indian Government has Treaty relations, without receiving an order from the Pasha of Yemen, which means that Lahej and the districts round Aden are considered Turkish possessions.

7. I am disposed to look upon Moosa Kathem's letter, penned after the Aden Troop had been patrolling in Lahej for nearly a month, as an indirect reply to the communication I addressed to the Mushir, and which will perhaps be used by him as a pretext to show that an unfriendly demonstration has been made by the Resident against Turkish authority in Yemen.

8. It will, I think, be proper to put the Foreign Office on its guard against any such misconstruction, and I would accordingly suggest that the Secretary of State be requested to advise that Department of Government that the Aden Troop was raised and established at Khor-Muxa, to patrol from time to time throughout the country of the Chiefs in the neighbourhood of Aden, with whom we have Treaty relations, to keep up a friendly intercourse with the people, and to watch the roads, and that the presence of fifty sabres in the Lahej territory is no unusual event, however inconvenient and distasteful it may have proved at the present juncture to the Turkish authorities at Yemen.

9. I have not thought it necessary to notice the letter written to me by the Commandant at Taizz; but its receipt leads me to think it probable that the Mushir does not intend to reply to the communication I sent to him on the 8th January last.

10. I cannot too strongly urge the necessity that exists for at once setting at rest and ignoring the Turkish pretensions to exercise any control whatever over the tribe in the vicinity of Aden. Any further delay in so doing must inevitably lead the more ignorant Chiefs around us to suppose that Government is unable to put a stop to the proceedings of the subordinates of the Ottoman Government, which have formed the subject of so many representations from this Residency.

11. The Turks have not advanced further south than the district of Kobatee, on the borders of Yemen; and it is now reported that the troops sent there had been withdrawn to Taizz by the Mootasarif.

12. The Aden troop returned to Khor-Muxa some days ago, the Commandant having reported himself ill from continued fever.

13. Copy of this despatch will be forwarded to the Secretary of State for India.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. W. SCHNEIDER.

Inclosure 13 in No. 30 B.

Moosa Kathem Bey to Brigadier-General Schneider.

(Translation.)

(After compliments.) 3 *Zil-Hag*, 1289 (*February* 2, 1872).

SOME of the tribesmen have told me that you are sending soldiers from Aden to the Lahej country. We have neither received any instructions or orders from his Excellency the Governor-General of Yemen on this subject. It is not lawful for you to send a force from Aden towards our side without first receiving an order from the above-named person. This movement on your part is not proper, especially as this* country is not yet in order. If there should happen murder or any other evil thing, it will be contrary to the Treaty existing between the two Governments. We write this for your information, and on account of our friendship.

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* Evidently refers to the country around Aden.

Inclosure 14 in No. 30 B.

Brigadier-Schneider to the Duke of Argyll.

My Lord Duke, *Aden, February* 10, 1873.

I HAVE the honour to transmit copy of my letter of the 10th of February, 1873, to the Government of Bombay, and earnestly to request your Grace's special and early consideration to paragraphs 4 and 5 of that communication, in the hope that effectual steps will be adopted to restrain the Turkish authorities in Yemen from making further overtures to the Chiefs or Sheikhs in the vicinity of Aden, with whom we have Treaty relations.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. W. SCHNEIDER.

Inclosure 15 in No. 30 B.

Brigadier-General Schneider to Mr. Gonne.

Sir, *Aden, February* 10, 1873.

I HAVE the honour to report that the Sheikh Abdoola bin Kadir and Sheikh Nasir bin Saeed, Chiefs of the Mukhdoome subdivision of the Soobahee tribe, informs me in a letter dated the 5th February, that they had received a summons from the Mootasarif Suleiman Noorie and Moosa Kathem, commanding the Turkish troops at Taizz, on the 29th January, desiring them to wait upon them at that place, and declaring that all Chiefs of the eastern country had come under the subjection of the Ottoman Government. The Sheikhs were directed to lose no time in going to Taizz.

2. Abdoolla-bin-Kadir and Sheikh Nasir bin Saeed forwarded the Mootasarif's letter to the Resident, translation of which is attached, and asked for his advice and orders, saying that they had no desire to go to Taizz, as there was friendship between the British Government and themselves, and they inquired whether they should harass the people under the authority of the Governor of that district. They also added that this was the second letter they had received from the Mootasarif, to which they had given no reply.

3. I advised the Sheikhs to send back an answer in effect that they had an engagement with the Great Government, and I informed them that as friendship existed between the British and the Ottoman Governments, any hostile act on their part was not desired, and would be viewed with great disapprobation by the Government of India, which only wishes that peace shall exist between all nations and people. I further told the Sheikhs that the Resident wished them to continue to act up to their obligations, which are, to free the traffic passing through their territories in Aden from all transit duties and to protect travellers upon the roads, in consideration of the monthly allowance they receive from Government.

4. The circumstances now brought to notice will show that so recently as the end of January the Turkish authorities at Taizz were still carrying on proceedings which are injurious to Her Majesty's possessions at Aden, inasmuch as they tend to disturb the minds of the Chiefs and Sheikhs in the vicinity, with whom we have Treaty or other engagements, through whose territories we draw our supplies; and with reference to the correspondence forwarded to my address, in a letter from the India Office, dated 17th of January, 1873, copy of which was forwarded to you under date of the 1st February, 1873, I would suggest that the Secretary of State for India be requested to move the Foreign Office to ask whether the overtures that are continually being made to such Chiefs and Sheikhs have been sanctioned by the Ottoman Government, and that a request may be made to the Sublime Porte to send immediate orders to its authorities in Yemen to stop all such overtures which are calculated to disturb the position we hold at Aden, and are just as objectionable as any operation against Lahej would be.

5. It may be as well if the Sublime Porte is informed that we have Treaty relations with the following Arab tribes in the neighbourhood of Aden:—

(1.) The Abdalee (Lahej).
(2.) The Fooldhees.
(3.) The Akrabees.
(4.) The Howshebees.
(5.) The Alowees.
(6.) The Ameers.
(7.) The Soohthees.
(8.) The Yaffaees.
(9.) The Owlakees.

6. Copy of this letter has been forwarded to the Secretary of State for India, and I have invited his Grace's special consideration to paragraphs 4 and 5 thereof.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. W. SCHNEIDER.

Inclosure 16 in No. 30 B.

The Mootasarif Suleiman Norrie and Moosa Kathem to Sheikh Abdullah bin Kadi, the Minsooree.

(Translation.)
(After compliments.) 29 *Shawal*, 1289 (*January* 29, 1873).

WE write this to you from Taizz, after the arrival of the Sheikhs of the Upper and Lower, and the Chiefs of the Eastern country. All of them have become obedient to the orders of the High Government. As soon as you receive this letter come to us. Do not make any delay except the time of your journey. On your arrival there will be conversation between us.

(Seal of Suleiman Noorie Mootasarif).
(Seal of Moosa Bey).

Inclosure 17 in No. 30 B.

Brigadier-General Schneider to the Duke of Argyll.

My Lord Duke, *Aden, February* 12, 1873.

I DO myself the honour to transmit a copy of my despatch of this day's date to the Government of Bombay.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. W. SCHNEIDER.

Inclosure 18 in No. 30 B.

Brigadier-General Schneider to Mr. Gonne.

Sir, *Aden, February* 12, 1873.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 3rd instant, forwarding for my information and guidance copy of a communication from the Secretary to the Government of India, dated the 31st January, 1873, and to state that, as directed, I will report by telegraph to the Government of Bombay any important facts connected with Turkish interference.

2. In my letter of the 5th February, I informed Government that the communication I had addressed to the Mushir at Sana had been delivered to him on the 15th January. No reply has reached me to this date. There has, however, been no further action or demonstration against the Sultan of Lahej, and consequently I did not consider it necessary to use the cable, as I understood my instructions received on the 7th January last to be that I was to suggest by telegraph what moral and material support could be given to His Highness, if the Pasha persevered in his proceedings in spite of the warning given to him by the Resident.

3. The Government of India must now be in possession of the correspondence received by me direct from the India Office, forwarded to Government under my despatch of the 1st February, and as Sir H. Elliot, in his telegram dated Constantinople, the 13th January, has stated that no operations will be commenced against Lahej without orders from the Porte, which will do nothing without communicating with Her Majesty's Government, it may, I think, be anticipated that there will now be no necessity for any moral and material support, so far as the Sultan of Lahej is concerned.

4. In the event, however, of any Turkish interference or meditated aggressions against Lahej, notwithstanding the assurances that have been given to Sir H. Elliott, I consider that it would be necessary to support the Sultan. This could be done by occupying his territory with a detachment of troops consisting of a light field battery and of British and native infantry, with the Aden troop. No other support—such as the grant of war materials—would be of use, as the Sultan's forces are by themselves con-

temptible. His Highness has about 2,000 fighting men armed with matchlocks, and two light guns and two mortars, presented to him by Government.

5. It is known that the Turkish troops are armed with the Snider or other breech-loading rifles, and I have reason to think that they have also light field or mountain rifled guns.

6. I have lately reported to Government and to the Secretary of State for India that the Turkish authorities at Taizz continue to address the petty Chiefs and Sheikhs in the vicinity of Aden to come there and give their adherence to the Ottoman Government, and on this point I submit his Grace the Duke of Argyll should be moved to address the Foreign Office, for so long as such unfriendly proceedings are persisted in, there can be no expectation that the minor Chiefs and Sheikhs will look alone, as heretofore, to the Government of India as the paramount power in the neighbourhood of Aden, or that there will be a cessation in the intrigues that have been agitating and disquieting their minds for some months past.

7. Copy of this letter will be forwarded to the Secretary of State for India.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. W. SCHNEIDER.

No. 31.

Earl Granville to Sir H. Elliot.

(No. 66.)
Sir, *Foreign Office, March* 20, 1873.

I TRANSMIT to your Excellency a copy of a further letter from the India Office respecting the proceedings of the Turks in connection with Shuhar and Maculla;* and, as it would appear that no answer has been returned to your communication to the Porte, as reported in your Excellency's despatch No. 366 of the 15th of October, 1871, I have to request that you will make to them a further representation on this subject.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 32.

Earl Granville to Sir H. Elliot.

(No. 55.)
Sir, *Foreign Office, March* 17, 1873.

HER Majesty's Government learnt with much satisfaction from your despatch No. 45 of the 14th of February, that the Governor-General of the Yemen had been instructed to abstain from interfering with, or in any way molesting, the Ruler of Lahej. Her Majesty's Government could certainly not have assented to the expedient proposed by the Porte, and reported in your despatch No. 28 of the 3rd of February, that the Chief of Lahej should make a purely nominal submission to the Sultan, without tribute or service being required from him, and your Excellency did quite right in warning the Grand Vizier that there was no probability of its being entertained.

It is only necessary for me, as the matter now stands, to request your Excellency to continue to bear the question in mind, and, in any future discussions with the Turkish Ministers, firmly to maintain the position already taken up by Her Majesty's Government respecting it.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 33.

Mr. Hammond to Mr. Grant Duff.

Sir, *Foreign Office, March* 24, 1873.

WITH reference to your letter of the 14th instant on the subject of the proceedings of the Turks in the neighbourhood of Aden, I am directed by Earl Granville to request you to call the Duke of Argyll's attention to the last despatch which his Lordship has

* No. 30a.

addressed to Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople on the subject, and a copy of which was communicated to the India Office on the 18th instant.*

Lord Granville thinks that, before a stronger remonstrance can be addressed to the Porte, as suggested by the Government of India, some clear proofs should be shown of our right to take the Chiefs with whom we have Treaty engagements directly under our protection, and the extent of that right should be defined as the ground of our demand.

I am, &c.
(Signed) E. HAMMOND.

No. 34.

Mr. Merivale to Mr. Hammond.—(Received March 31.)

Sir, *India Office, March* 28, 1873.

WITH reference to previous correspondence, terminating with your letter of the 18th March, 1873, I am directed by the Duke of Argyll to forward, for the information of Earl Granville, copy of further letters from the Resident at Aden, with inclosures, respecting the proceedings of the Turks in the neighbourhood of Aden.

I am, &c.
(Signed) HERMAN MERIVALE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 34.

Brigadier-General Schneider to the Duke of Argyll.

My Lord Duke, *Aden, February* 18, 1873.

I DO myself the honour to transmit a copy of my despatch of this day's date to the Government of Bombay.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. W. SCHNEIDER.

Inclosure 2 in No. 34.

Brigadier-General Schneider to Mr. Gonné.

Sir, *Aden, February* 18, 1873

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your telegram, in cypher, dated 17th February, 1873, and to subjoin, for the information of Government, copies of the communications I have addressed to Sooleiman Noorie Bey, the Mootasarif at Taizz, and to the several Chiefs and Sheikhs who have recently been addressed by that Turkish functionary:—

"*Brigadier-General Schneider to Sooleiman Noorie Bey, the Mootasarif, Taizz.*

"(After compliments.) "*Aden, February* 17, 1873.

"Be it known that we have received the commands of the British Government to inform you that perseverance in efforts to bring under Turkish authority Chiefs or tribes who have Treaty relations with, or receive stipends from, the Great Government of India will be considered an unfriendly act towards Great Britain.

"We make this communication to you with reference to the letters you have recently addressed to certain Sheikhs in the neighbourhood of Aden.

(Signed) "J. W. SCHNEIDER."

"*Brigadier-General Schneider to the Chiefs of the Fooldlee, Howshebee, Alowee, Ameer, Mukhtoomee, Mansooree, Rijuee, and Akrabee Tribes.*

"(After compliments.) "*Aden, February* 17, 1873.

"Be it known to you that the Turkish officer at Taizz has been informed by us, by command of the British Government, that perseverance in efforts to bring under Turkish

* No. 32.

authority Chiefs or tribes who have Treaty relations with, or receive stipends from, the Great Government of India, will be considered an unfriendly act towards Great Britain. We have further been directed to inform you that the proceedings of the Turkish officer at Taizz are not believed to be authorized by the Turkish Government at Istambool.

(Signed) "J. W. SCHNEIDER."

2. A copy of this letter will be forwarded for the information of his Grace the Secretary of State for India.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. W. SCHNEIDER.

Inclosure 3 in No. 34.

Brigadier-General Schneider to the Duke of Argyll.

Aden, February 22, 1873.

My Lord Duke,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, dated India Office, London, the 7th February, 1873, forwarding, for my information, copies of letters from the Foreign Office, of the 24th, 28th, and 31st January, with their inclosures, on the subject of Turkish proceedings in the neighbourhood of Aden.

2. I have only to refer your Grace to my letter of the 1st February, and to state, as regards the observations made in paragraph 3 of Sir H. Elliot's communication, dated Constantinople, 13th January, that it is quite untrue that the Sultan of Lahej invaded and plundered the territory of a Chieftain who had complied with an invitation of the Governor of Yemen to come and make his profession of obedience, and so forced him to return.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. W. SCHNEIDER.

Inclosure 4 in No. 34.

Brigadier-General Schneider to the Duke of Argyll.

Aden, March 3, 1873.

My Lord Duke,

I HAVE the honour to forward, for your Grace's information, copy of a despatch I have this day addressed to the Government of Bombay.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. W. SCHNEIDER.

Inclosure 5 in No. 34.

Brigadier-General Schneider to Mr. Gonne.

Aden, March 3, 1873.

Sir,

ADVERTING to my letter of the 18th February, 1873, I have the honour to inform Government that I received, on the 28th idem, an answer to the communication I addressed to Suleiman Noorie, the Mootasarif, or Civil Governor at Taizz, under the orders of the Government of India, translation of which I now annex.

2. The answer is courteously expressed, but the Mootasarif professes not to have understood the object in view in writing to him, while he takes advantage of the opportunity to say he was surprised that the Resident did not reply to a letter sent to him by Moosa Kathem Bey, the commander of the troops at Taizz.

3. I informed Government, in paragraph 9 of my letter of the 5th February, that I had not thought it necessary to notice Moosa Kathem Bey's communication, in which he commented on the presence of the Aden troop in the Lahej territory.

4. I have ascertained that the nephew of Ali bin Mana, the Howshebee, and five companions, are now at Taizz, and the Howshebee Sheikh has himself written to me, saying that he is about to pay a further visit to the Mootasariff. This intriguing and troublesome Chief is evidently buoyed up with a hope that he will obtain assistance from the Turks in the recovery of the district that was wrested from him in the year

1868 by the Sultan of Lahej, in the manner already reported on in my letter of the 1st February last. The Howshebee will probably discover that there is little prospect of the Turks making a hostile movement against Lahej, when it may be anticipated that he will listen to the advice of the Resident.

5. The Howshebee Sheikh, the Ameer, and the Rijaice Sheikh, one of the Soobahees, are the only Chiefs who have, to my knowledge, entered into any engagements with the Turks. They are, I understand, in effect, that they will keep their territories safe for travellers, and will render submission to the Ottoman Government whenever called on to do so.

6. It is to be hoped that the last communication of the Foreign Office, dated the 30th January, 1873, to Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople, copy of which was transmitted to me with India Office letter of the 7th February, will shortly have the effect of restraining the Turkish authorities in Yemen from further interference with the Arab Chiefs around Aden, with whom we have Treaty or other engagements. In the meantime, it will be satisfactory to Government to learn that, notwithstanding the proceedings of the Turks, there is no sensible diminution in our supplies from the interior, and that all Chiefs are at present acting in good faith towards us, by keeping the roads open and safe for travellers and Kafillas passing to and from Aden.

7. A copy of this despatch has been forwarded to the Secretary of State for India.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. W. SCHNEIDER.

Inclosure 6 in No. 34.

Suleiman Nourie Bey to Brigadier-General Schneider.

(Translation.)

(After compliments.) *26th Al-Hijja*, A.H., 1289 (*February* 25, 1873).

I HAVE received your letter, and have understood what is mentioned in it; but I do not exactly comprehend [its drift]. But he to whom authority was given to adjust the country under the flag [Liwa] of Taizz, and who is the commandant of the army of the above-mentioned place, has already written to your Excellency. I was surprised that he did not get an answer from you according to the existing rule. But you sent me a reply. The fact is, that they [the military authorities] were appointed to bring into submission the districts of Yemen, and to improve the country of the Muslimeen; and I was merely ordered to administer the country. For the purpose of informing your Excellency I have explained to you this circumstance, in accordance with the dictates of friendship. May you be protected for ever.

(Signed in French) MUTESSARIF LIVA THESE SULEIMAN NOURY.
(L.S.) Mootasariff Liwa Taizz.

No. 35.

Mr. Grant Duff to Mr. Hammond.—(Received April 15.)

India Office, April 9, 1873.

Sir,

WITH reference to your letter of the 24th ultimo, relative to the proposal of the Viceroy of India to cause the Turkish Governor of Yemen to be informed that certain chiefs in the vicinity of Aden, with whom we had relations, would, in the event of further aggressive movements on the part of the Turkish authorities, be taken under the formal protection of the British Government, I am directed by the Duke of Argyll to forward, for the information of Earl Granville, copy of a telegram sent by his Grace to the Viceroy of India, respecting the right of the British Government to take these chiefs under their protection.

I am, &c.
(Signed) M. E. GRANT DUFF.

Inclosure in No. 35.

The Duke of Argyll to the Viceroy of India.

India Office, April 5, 1873.

(Telegraphic.)

YOUR despatch, 14th February, Foreign Office wish distinct proofs of right to take Yemen Chiefs under protection, the extent to be defined.

No. 35*.

Sir H. Elliot to Earl Granville.—(Received April 20.)

(No. 102.)

Constantinople, April 10, 1873.

My Lord,

AS directed by your Lordship's despatch No. 66 of the 20th ultimo, I have addressed a further communication to the Porte, requesting an answer to my previous representations in connection with Shuhur and Muculla.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

Inclosure in No. 35*.

Note Verbale.

Constantinople, April 10, 1873.

ON the 7th October, 1869, Her Majesty's Embassy had the honour to address a communication to the Sublime Porte requesting information in reference to the proceedings of the Imperial Government in connection with Shuhur and Muculla.

Not having been favoured with any reply, the communication was repeated on September 30, 1871, which has also remained unacknowledged.

Her Majesty's Embassy is consequently now directed to make a further representation on this subject and begs to be enabled to convey the answer of the Sublime Porte to Her Majesty's Government.

No. 36.

Mr. Grant Duff to Mr. Hammond.—(Received April 26.)

India Office, April 26, 1873.

Sir,

WITH reference to previous correspondence on the subject of the proceedings of the Turkish authorities in the neighbourhood of Aden, I am directed by the Duke of Argyll to forward to you, for the information of Earl Granville, copy of a further despatch from the Government of India, Secret, dated 21st March, 1873, containing remarks on the general state of the case.

I take the opportunity of transmitting, for submission to Earl Granville, copy of a telegram from the Viceroy of India, dated 12th April, in reply to the Duke of Argyll's telegram of 5th April, copy of which accompanied my letter of the 9th idem, respecting the propriety of taking under British protection the Chiefs near Aden with whom we have Treaty engagements.

I am to add that, on receipt of the promised despatch from the Government of India, a further communication will be made to you.

I am, &c.

(Signed) M. E. GRANT DUFF.

Inclosure 1 in No. 36.

The Governor-General of India in Council to the Duke of Argyll.

Fort William, March 21, 1873.

My Lord Duke,

IN continuation of our despatch dated 14th February last, we have the honour to forward, for the information of Her Majesty's Government, copy of papers relative to

the proceedings of the Turks in the neighbourhood of Aden, and also to draw attention to the several letters from the Political Resident to the address of the Bombay Government, copies of which have been sent direct to your Excellency by that officer.

2. With reference to the inclosures of despatch from the Assistant Secretary in the Political and Secret Department, dated 17th January last, we would especially invite attention to General Schneider's letter, dated 1st February last, to your Grace's address, in which he furnishes an explanation of the alleged aggression upon the Howshebees on the part of the Sultan of Lahej, alluded to in Sir H. Elliot's telegram of the 13th January. The Chief of the Howshebees, as well as the Sultan of Lahej, having Treaty relations with the British Government, we are of opinion that any attempt to bring the former under subjection is equally objectionable with similar action taken in regard to Lahej. Both Chiefs being in relations with the British Government and both equally independent of Turkey, any difference between them is a matter with which the Turkish officers in Yemen are in no way concerned. Under these circumstances, any explanation in regard to the quarrel between the Sultan of Lahej and the Howshebees, which Her Majesty's Government may think it right to give to the Ottoman Government should, in our opinion, be considered merely as a friendly explanation to a friendly Power, and not as an admission of any right on the part of the Turkish authorities to interfere on behalf of the Howshebee Chief.

3. We avail ourselves of this opportunity to acknowledge receipt of despatch from the Secretary in the Political and Secret Department, dated 7th February last, forwarding copies of communications that had taken place between Her Majesty's Foreign Office and Sir Henry Elliot relative to the Turkish proceedings. We beg to express our satisfaction at the assurances given by Khalil Pasha, to the effect that the Turkish Government had no intention of establishing their authority beyond the Red Sea; and we would also record our entire concurrence with the views contained in Lord Granville's despatch dated 30th January, 1873, to the address of Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople.

We have, &c.

(Signed) NORTHBROOK.
NAPIER OF MAGDALA.
R. TEMPLE.
B. H. ELLIS.
H. W. NORMAN.
A. HOBHOUSE.
E. C. BAYLEY.

Inclosure 2 in No. 36.

Mr. Gonne to Mr. Aitchison.

Bombay Castle, March 1, 1873.

IN continuation of previous correspondence relating to the movements of the Turks in Yemen, I am directed to forward herewith, for submission to the Government of India, copy of a further letter from the Political Resident at Aden, dated 19th ultimo, on the above subject.

Inclosure 3 in No. 36.

Brigadier-General Schneider to Mr. Gonne.

Aden, February 19, 1873.

I HAVE the honour to report, for the information of Government, that I thought it advisable to acquaint the Sultan of Lahej with the substance of the telegram from Sir Henry Elliot, dated Constantinople, 13th January, 1873 (a copy of which formed an inclosure to the India Office letter of the 17th idem), to the effect that no operations would be commenced against Lahej without orders from the Porte, which would do nothing without communicating with Her Majesty's Government, and in doing so I expressed my belief to His Highness that he need be under no further apprehension.

2. I have received a letter from the Sultan, in reply to my communication, in which he expresses himself as entirely reassured, and conveys his acknowledgments and thanks for the solicitude shown in his behalf by Her Majesty's Government; and as I had

especially warned him that in his dealings with the neighbouring Chiefs he should be careful to abstain from any action which might afford a ground of complain against him, and a pretext for interference on the part of the Turkish authorities on behalf of any Sheikhs or others who have waited on the Mootasarif at Taizz; he further assures me that in his external relations he will be wholly guided by the advice of the Resident at Aden.

Inclosure 4 in No. 36.

Mr. Aitchison to Mr. Goune.

Fort William, March 17, 1873.

I N acknowledging receipt of your letters of the 20th, 25th, and 28th February, and 1st March, 1873, I am directed to state that his Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General in Council is pleased to approve of the proceedings of the Political Resident at Aden in connection with Turkish proceedings in the neighbourhood of that station. Brigadier-General Schneider's proceedings are in entire accordance with the instructions of the Government of India and with the views expressed to the Secretary of State in the despatch dated 14th February, 1873, a copy of which was forwarded confidentially for the information of the Bombay Government by docket dated 14th February, 1873.

Inclosure 5 in No. 36.

The Viceroy of India to the Duke of Argyll.

April 12, 1873.

(Telegraphic.)

YOURS of 5th about Aden Chiefs. Reply goes by mail of 11th.

No. 37.

Mr. Grant Duff to Mr. Hammond.—(Received May 12.)

India Office, May 12, 1873.

Sir,

I AM directed by the Duke of Argyll to transmit to you, for the information of Earl Granville, copy of a telegram just received from the Government of India, relative to further aggressions by the Turkish Governor of Yemen, on tribes in the vicinity of Aden, hitherto wholly independent, and with whom we have concluded Treaty engagements as being so; and I am to request that, in laying the same before his Lordship, you will state to him that the act of the Turkish authorities in locating a body of troops among the Howshebee tribe, who live in the immediate vicinity of Aden, and from whose country important supplies are drawn, cannot, in his Grace's opinion, be regarded with indifference.

I am to add the expression of his Grace's entire concurrence in the recommendations in the Government of India, and of his hope that Earl Granville may see fit to instruct Sir Henry Elliot, by telegraph, accordingly.

I am, &c.

(Signed) M. E. GRANT DUFF.

Inclosure in No. 37.

The Viceroy to the Duke of Argyll.

May 10, 1870.

(Telegraphic.)

FOLLOWING from Aden Resident, dated 5th:—

"Letter received by Turkish Agent at Aden from Civil Governor at Taizz, saying he has received orders from Mushir at Sana, to appoint Howshebee Sultan, Chief of Howshebee district on a monthly salary of 50 dollars, also Mushir has given orders that detachment of Turkish troops be sent to Howshebee Sultan to protect his country."

If true, these proceedings are opposed to assurances given by Khalil Pasha, as

reported in Sir Henry Elliot's despatch of 6th of January, and in face of remonstrances made in Lord Granville's letter of 30th idem. If troops have been sent I trust their recall will be peremptorily demanded and satisfactory explanation required of violation of assurances given.

No. 38.

Mr. Hammond to Mr. Merivale.—(Received May 12.)

India Office, May 12, 1873.

Sir,

WITH reference to previous correspondence, terminating with my letter of the 9th ultimo, I am directed by the Duke of Argyll to forward, for submission to Earl Granville, copy of a despatch from the Government of India, dated 11th April, 1873, stating their views respecting the right and expediency of taking under British protection such of the Chiefs of Yemen as have entered into Treaty engagements with us.

I am to add that his Grace concurs in the opinions expressed in the above mentioned despatch.

I am, &c.

(Signed) HERMAN MERIVALE.

Inclosure in No. 38.

The Governor-General of India in Council to the Duke of Argyll.

Fort William, April 11, 1873.

My Lord Duke,

WE have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your Grace's telegram of the 5th instant to the Viceroy's Address, as quoted in the margin.*

2. In our despatch of the 14th February last, we stated that, under certain contingences, we should be prepared, if Her Majesty's Government considered such a course desirable, to take the Chiefs directly under our protection, and to engage to defend them from aggressions which, in our opinion, were destructive to the peace of the country, and injurious to British interests at Aden.

3. The question of the right of the British Government to take these Chiefs under our protection may be viewed in two aspects, viz.:—1st, our right as regards the alleged claims of the Turkish Government; and, 2ndly, our right as regards the Chiefs themselves.

4. With reference to the first aspect of the question, we would state the following as being, in our opinion, the grounds on which the rights of the British Government to take these Chiefs under protection are based, viz:—

1st. That the Chiefs are, and for the last century have been, independent of Turkish influence and control.

2nd. That the British Government has, as a matter of fact, already entered into Treaty relations with these Chiefs, without reference to Turkey or any other foreign Power, and may conclude fresh engagements with them if deemed expedient.

3rd. That the recent proceedings of the Turkish officials have been so prejudicial to British interests at Aden, as to afford good ground for such arrangements being concluded with the Chiefs as may be deemed best fitted to prevent a repetition of the evils. To such arrangements for the peace and security of our settlement no objection can reasonably be offered.

4th. That the Chief of the largest and most important tribe (the Abdalees) has distinctly claimed British assistance,† and asked for protection.‡

5th. That while the Chiefs have been independent of Turkey, they have not been so of the British Government, which, for some years, has paid them stipends, and has frequently interfered to settle their inter-tribal quarrels. They have come to look on the Resident at Aden as their friend and adviser in all their difficulties. The question is, therefore, somewhat a domestic one.

5. Turning next to the question of the rights of the British Government as against the Chiefs themselves, we would observe that, while we consider ourselves free to impose

* Your despatch, February 14. Foreign Office wish distinct proof of right to take Yemen Chiefs under protection, the extent to be defined.

† Resident's letter, October 25, 1872.

‡ Resident's letter, January 4, 1873.

any measures upon the Chiefs which we may deem essential for the safety of our Aden possessions, it is far from our intention to have recourse to any forcible measures. We propose to secure the objects we have in view with the consent of the Chiefs and by negotiation with them.

6. The second portion of your Grace's telegram relates to the extent of protection to be afforded, and this may be considered—first, in regard to the territorial limits of the Protectorate; and, secondly, as to the precise degree of such protection.

7. In the former respect, we are of opinion that the protection of the British Government should extend to all the tribes marginally noted,* with whom Treaties have been, at various times, concluded. These Treaties will be found in the seventh volume of the collection of "Treaties, Engagements, and Sunnuds." As to the degree of protection, we consider that it will be sufficient—1st, to require the Chiefs to abstain from political intercourse with foreign Powers without the consent of the British Government, and to refer all disputes with foreign Powers, or with each other, to the British Government for settlement; and, 2nd, on our part to engage to defend them against unprovoked aggression by foreign Powers.

I have, &c.
(Signed) NORTHBROOK.

No. 38.

Sir H. Elliot to Earl Granville.—(Received May 13.)

Constantinople, April 29, 1873.

My Lord,

THE warning conveyed by your Lordship's despatch No. 67 of the 20th of March,† that a compliance with the supposed wish of the Khedive to be entrusted with the administration of the Yemen would be looked upon as undesirable by the allies of the Sultan, has been duly conveyed to the Porte.

The Grand Vizier has empowered me to give your Lordship the most formal assurances, that neither the Sultan nor his Government entertain the least intention of listening to any such proposal.

For evidence that the Porte meant to keep the administration of that province in its own hands, was, his Highness observed, to be found in the recent orders given to the War Department for the formation of a permanent corps d'armée in the Yemen; for the organization of which a considerable number of officers have already been dispatched.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

No. 39.

Earl Granville to Sir H. Elliot.

(No. 111.)

Foreign Office, May 15, 1873.

Sir,

THE communications which you have made to the Porte under instructions from me during the present year, respecting the proceedings of the Turkish authorities in Arabia, must have satisfied the Porte that Her Majesty's Government were not prepared to acquiesce in any proceedings its officers might take in that quarter, indicating a disposition to extend its authority over the native Arab tribes, and interfere with such of them as were in friendship with the British Government, and so generally disquiet the territories in the neighbourhood of Aden.

I especially directed you, in my despatch No. 19 of the 30th of January, to point out that for above 200 years Yemen has been under the rule of independent Arab Chiefs, and I said that although under those circumstances Her Majesty's Government had no desire to discuss this point generally, it was their wish that the independence of those Chiefs in the vicinity of Aden should be respected, and that they would not view with indifference any attempt to subvert the authority of those Chiefs.

* 1. The Abdalee (Lahej); 2. Fondhlee; 3. The Akrabee; 4. The Howshebee; 5. The Alowee; 6. The Ameer; 7. The Soobahee; 8. The Jaffaee; 9. The Owlakee.

† Not given in this collection as it refers to a separate question.

The assurances which you received in general terms from the Porte were on the whole satisfactory at the time, but your recent despatch No. 131 of the 29th April, in which you represent the Porte as still alluding to the Sultan's authority over the Yemen, makes it desirable that I should repeat, as regards this province generally, the instructions which, in my despatch No. 52 of the 11th of March, I gave you as specifically applying to the Sultan of Lahej, firmly to maintain the position taken by Her Majesty's Government as regards Yemen.

I am the more inclined to do so at present by the account contained in the telegram from the Governor-General of India, dated May 10, of which I inclose a copy,* and by which it appears that Turkish authorities are still interfering with native Chiefs in the neighbourhood of Aden, and are locating a body of troops among the Howshebee tribe living in the immediate vicinity of that place, which draws from among them important supplies. To this specific act of aggression your Excellency will at once call the attention of the Porte.

As regards the more general question of the Yemen, I have to inclose to your Excellency a copy of a despatch from the Governor-General of India,† supplying the information which I requested the Duke of Argyll to obtain from the Indian Government as to the right of the British Government to take directly under their protection the native Arab Chiefs, with whom they have Treaty engagements, and the extent to which such right might be claimed. The answers to these questions are contained in the inclosed despatch, and in your conversation with the Porte your Excellency will adopt those answers as the ground of your insistence with the Turkish Government against interference with the Arab tribes enumerated by the Governor-General.

I inclose copy of a map showing the locality of the several tribes referred to.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 40.

Mr. Grant Duff to Mr. Hammond.—(Received May 23.)

India Office, May 22, 1873.

Sir,

WITH reference to your letters of 14th and 16th May, I am directed by the Duke of Argyll to forward, for submission to Earl Granville, copy of a telegram this day received from the Viceroy of India, stating that there are, at the present time, twelve Turkish soldiers billeted in the house of the Howshebee Sultan; and I am to suggest that, should his Lordship concur, immediate telegraphic instructions should be sent to Sir Henry Elliot, requesting him to press upon the Porte the necessity of at once withdrawing the soldiers in question.

I am, &c.
(Signed) M. E. GRANT DUFF.

Inclosure in No. 40.

Brigadier-General Schneider to the Duke of Argyll.

(Telegraphic.)

Aden, May 21, 1873.

A DETACHMENT of twelve Turkish soldiers, armed with breech-loaders, arrived yesterday at Shukah, in the Howshebee country, near Zaida, the frontier of Lahej. The men are billeted in Howshebee Sultan's house. Their immediate withdrawal should be required from Turkish Government.

No. 41.

Earl Granville to Sir H. Elliot.

(Telegraphic.)

Foreign Office, May 23, 1873.

RESIDENT at Aden reports that Turkish soldiers, armed with breech-loaders, are billeted in the house of the Howshebee Sultan, near Lahej. Press upon Porte their immediate withdrawal.

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* Inclosure in No. 37.

† No. 38.

No. 42.

Mr. Merivale to Mr. Hammond.—(Received May 30.)

India Office, May 29, 1873.

Sir,

WITH reference to my letter of 22nd instant, I am directed by the Duke of Argyll to forward, for submission to Earl Granville, copy of a further telegram from the Resident at Aden; dated 27th instant, respecting the proceedings of the Turks in the neighbourhood of Aden, and I am to request that you will move his Lordship to state what steps he has taken in the matter.

I am, &c.

(Signed) HERMAN MERIVALE.

Inclosure in No. 42.

Brigadier-General Schneider to the Duke of Argyll.

Aden, May 27, 1873.

(Telegraphic.)

MY telegram of 21st. Matters are becoming critical here. The Civil Governor of Taizz has marched with three regiments for Hojariga and Moktaree, north-west of the Sobahees, and it is reported will return *viâ* Kattaba, passing through the country of the Howshebee and the Ameer. This would be a reconnaissance in the neighbourhood of Aden, and would have a very disturbing effect on our position and on the Chiefs around us. It is of importance I should know if the Ottoman Porte has directed the withdrawal of Turkish Troops from the Howshebee country. The Resident should be authorized to send troops to Lahej if he considers it necessary to support the Sultan. The Howshebee Chief has tried to induce a brother of the Sultan of Lahej to make his submission to the Turks, and he has also made overtures to [?] Sheikhs, of the sub-tribe of Lahej, for the same purpose. This is done from the support he derives from the presence of a Turkish detachment and a Turkish emissary at Shuka.

Copy of this has been sent to Government of Bombay.

No. 43.

Sir J. Kaye to Mr. Hammond.—(Received May 30.)

India Office, May 30, 1873.

My dear Mr. Hammond,

IN order to save time, I send you the accompanying telegrams from Aden and India. I am afraid that our Turkish friends are not keeping very good faith with us. We sent you a telegram on the 29th, stating the circumstances of the case. Will you kindly let me know privately, what you can do to keep things quiet.

I have come back to work, and hope soon to have some talk with you.

I am, &c.

(Signed) JAS. KAYE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 43.

The Viceroy of India to the Duke of Argyll.

May 29, 1873.

(Telegraphic.)

RESIDENT'S telegram 27th. We shall not authorize movement of troops from Aden, leaving you to give orders if necessary.

We think Foreign Office should insist on removal of Pasha or officer commanding, who seems to act contrary to assurances given to Sir H. Elliot.

Inclosure 2 in No. 43.

Brigadier-General Schneider to the Duke of Argyll.

Aden, May 29, 1873.

(Telegraphic.)

SIXTY Turkish irregular troops have arrived at Shuka in the Howshebee country.

No. 44.

Sir H. Elliot to Earl Granville.—(Received June 1.)

Therapia, June 1, 1873.

(Telegraphic.)

THE Porte will forthwith issue orders for the withdrawal of the troops from the house of Howshebee Sultan.

This communication is at present to be considered private and confidential, as the Porte will notify their intention of abstaining from molesting any of the tribes who have Treaties with England, and in communicating this resolution they propose to make certain reservations of their rights with the particulars of which I am not yet acquainted.

No. 45.

Mr. Merivale to Mr. Hammond.—(Received June 4.)

India Office, June 3, 1873.

Sir,

I AM directed by the Duke of Argyll to transmit to you, the inclosed telegram received from the Government of India, relative to the aggressions on the Howshebee tribe of the Turkish authorities in Yemen, which formed the subject of my letter of the 29th instant; and I am to request that, in laying the same before Earl Granville, you will move his Lordship to cause Sir Henry Elliot to be instructed to make such representations to the Porte, in the sense indicated by the Government of India, as may be effectual in inducing the Government of His Imperial Majesty to put a stop to these proceedings.

I am, &c.

(Signed) HERMAN MERIVALE.

Inclosure in No. 45.

Viceroy of India to the Duke of Argyll.

May 23, 1873.

(Telegraphic.)

RESIDENT'S Aden telegram about occupation of Houshebee country by Turkish troops. I have telegraphed to Bombay following:—

"Instruct Resident, Aden, to warn Turkish Pasha or chief officer that, in sending troops to Howshebee country, he is acting contrary to the assurances given by the Ottoman Porte to Her Majesty's Government, and will be answerable for the consequences. Troops should not occupy Lahej unless with orders from Governor of India or Secretary of State."

No. 46.

Mr. Hammond to Mr. Merivale.

Foreign Office, June 4, 1873.

Sir,

I HAVE laid before Lord Granville your letter of the 29th of May, inclosing a copy of a telegram from the Resident at Aden respecting the proceedings of the Turkish authorities in the neighbourhood of that place; and his Lordship has also had before him a further telegram from the same officer, dated the 29th of May, and a telegram from the Governor-General of India of the latter date, both on the same subject.

With reference to the Duke of Argyll's desire to be informed what steps Lord Granville has taken in the matter, I am to request you to call his Grace's attention to the despatch to Sir H. Elliot No. 111 of the 15th of May, of which a copy was communicated to the India Office on the same day, instructing him to press the Porte not to interfere with the Arab tribes in the neighbourhood of Aden, the names of which had been specified by the Governor-General of India.

Sir Henry Elliot's telegram, of which a copy was sent to you on the 2nd instant, will have shown the Duke of Argyll the result of his communications with the Turkish Government. His Excellency says, as the Duke will have seen, that the Porte will forthwith issue orders for the withdrawal of the troops from the house of the Howshebee

Sultan, and will hereafter officially notify its intention to abstain from molesting any of the tribes who have Treaties with England.

I am, &c.
(Signed) E. HAMMOND.

No. 47.

Earl Granville to Sir H. Elliot.

(Telegraphic.) *Foreign Office, June 5, 1873.*

WITH reference to your telegram of June 1, I have to state that reports from Aden of May 27, allude to various movements of Turkish troops in the neighbourhood of Aden inconsistent with the assurances given to you by the Porte. State this at once to the Porte and press for the immediate despatch of peremptory orders to their authorities in Yemen to withdraw Turkish troops from the neighbourhood, and to abstain from all intrigues and movements disquieting to the tribes in friendship with Great Britain, and calculated to throw doubt on the sincerity of the assurances given to Her Majesty's Government in that respect.

No. 48.

Sir H. Elliot to Earl Granville.—(Received June 6.)

(Telegraphic.) *Therapia, June 6, 1873, 6 P.M.*

BEFORE the receipt of your Lordship's telegram of yesterday, the Porte had informed me that the new Governor-General of the Yemen had received instructions in the sense conveyed to your Lordship by my telegram of the 1st instant.

He is desired to cause the immediate withdrawal of the troops, and to abstain from molesting any of the tribes mentioned in the letter of the Viceroy of India, inclosed in your Lordship's despatch No. 111 of the 15th ultimo, without the previous authorization of the Porte.

His Excellency left Constantinople yesterday to proceed with all despatch to Hodeida. There is at present no telegraphic communication with the Yemen.

No. 49.

Sir H. Elliot to Earl Granville.—(Received June 8.)

(No. 173.)
My Lord, *Therapia, May 30, 1873.*

YOUR Lordship's despatch No. 111 of the 15th instant, and your telegram of the 23rd respecting the interference of the Turkish authorities with the independent tribes in the neighbourhood of Aden reached me almost simultaneously.

I have communicated them to the Porte and asked that orders should at once be sent for the removal of the troops which had been billeted in the house of the Howshebee Sultan.

The Grand Vizier and the Minister of Foreign Affairs, while saying that orders to this effect could not be transmitted without inquiring into the circumstances under which the troops had been sent, promised that they would immediately ascertain the position of things, as well as the engagements taken by their predecessors, to which I had recalled their recollection.

I read your Lordship's despatch No. 111 to Rashid Pasha, leaving an extract of it in the hands of his Excellency; and I informed him, according to the tenour of the letter from the Governor-General of India to the Duke of Argyll, that these Chiefs, having for the last century been independent of Turkish influence and control, Her Majesty's Government had, as a matter of fact, without reference to the Porte, entered into Treaty relations with many of them (as shown by those enumerated in Lord Northbrook's letter), and felt themselves free to make fresh engagements with them if it was thought expedient.

That the recent proceedings of the Turkish authorities had so closely touched British interests at Aden that Her Majesty's Government might be called upon to consider what

further arrangements should be made to prevent their repetition, it not being admitted that objection could reasonably be offered to measures taken for the peace and security of the British Settlement.

That although the Chiefs had been independent of Turkey, they had not been so of Her Majesty's Government, which had for some years paid them regular stipends; and the British Resident at Aden had so frequently interfered to settle their inter-tribal quarrels that they had grown to look upon him as their adviser in all their difficulties.

I mentioned that the Chief of one of the most important tribes had already claimed British assistance and protection, and that although it was far from the intention of Her Majesty's Government to have recourse to forcible measures towards the Chiefs, protection would probably not be withheld from them if they should ask for it; and the responsibility for any measures which Her Majesty's Government may now feel it necessary to take must rest with those who had thought fit to disturb a state of things which had long existed.

Rashid Pasha said that, although he could not perceive how British interests could be affected by the authority of the Porte being recognized by the Chiefs, I might be assured that there was no disposition to do anything in the smallest degree distasteful to Her Majesty's Government, and that he would at once inquire into the question and then communicate with me.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

No. 50.

Sir H. Elliot to Earl Granville.—(Received June 9.)

(No. 175.)
My Lord, *Therapia, June 1, 1873.*

RASCHID PASHA has directed Mr. Pisani to inform me that the Porte, animated by the desire to comply with the wishes of Her Majesty's Government, will forthwith instruct the Governor-General of the Yemen to withdraw the troops which had been quartered in the house of the Howshebee Sultan.

His Excellency asked that this communication should for the moment be regarded as private and confidential, as the Porte proposes to notify their intention of abstaining from acting against, or molesting any of the Arab tribes which have Treaties with Great Britain, and at the same time to make certain reservations of their rights.

I am not yet informed what these may be.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

No. 51.

Earl Granville to Sir H. Elliot.

(No. 135.)
Sir, *Foreign Office, June 16, 1873.*

I APPROVE the language held by your Excellency to Rashid Pasha upon the subject of the independent tribes in the neighbourhood of Aden, as reported in your despatch No. 173 of the 30th ultimo.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 52.

Mr. Merivale to Mr. Hammond.—(Received June 18.)

Sir, *India Office, June 17, 1873.*

WITH reference to previous correspondence, I am directed by the Duke of Argyll to forward, for the information of Earl Granville, copy of further letters from the Resident of Aden, dated 12th, 19th, and 26th of May, 1873, respecting the proceedings of the Turks in the neighbourhood of Aden.

I am, &c.
(Signed) HERMAN MERIVALE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 52.

Brigadier-General Schneider to the Duke of Argyll.

Aden, May 5, 1873.

My Lord Duke,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of a letter dated India Office, London, 28th March, 1873, forwarding, for my information, copy of a further communication from the Foreign Office of the 18th idem, with inclosures, respecting the proceedings of Turkish authorities towards the Sultan of Lahej.

2. In the inclosure referred to, which was addressed by Earl Granville to Sir Henry Elliot, at Constantinople, it was stated Her Majesty's Government had learnt with much satisfaction that the Governor-General of Yemen had been instructed to abstain from interfering with, or in any way molesting, the Ruler of Lahej.

3. So far as the Sultan of Lahej is concerned, the orders issued by the Ottoman Government are satisfactory; but I would wish to draw your Grace's attention to the fact that throughout the correspondence that has taken place between the Foreign Office and Sir Henry Elliot, mention has only been made of Lahej, whereas the proceedings of the Turkish authorities in Yemen have been directed against all Suhans and Sheikhs with whom the British Government has engagements either by Treaty or by the payment to them of annual stipends.

In my letter of the 10th of February, 1873, forwarding to your Grace copy of my Report to the Government of Bombay of the 10th idem, I pointed out how necessary it was that the Ottoman Government should be requested to issue immediate orders to its authorities in Yemen to stop all overtures to, and to abstain from all interference with, the Arab tribes with whom we have Treaty relations, and when reading Sir Henry Elliot's despatch of the 14th of February, 1873, in the concluding lines of which it was stated that, by Imperial command, the Governor-General of Yemen had been instructed to leave matters as they formerly stood, I expected that all proceedings by the Turkish officers calculated to disturb our position would cease.

4. I find, however, that Turkish influence is being actively exercised in the country of the Ameer, on the borders of the district of Kattaba, in Yemen. I had received reliable information that a Moohafiz or Superintendent had been appointed at Dhali, the capital of the Ameer's possessions, to levy transit duties; and that the Ameer was to have received from the Turks 800 dollars annually as compensation. I am advised that he has objected to this arrangement, but the Moohafiz still remains at Dhali.

5. Ali-bin-Mana, the Howshebee Sultan, whose lands join with the country of the Sultan of Lahej, is in communication with the authorities of Taizz. The affairs of the Chief were commented on in my letter to your Grace's address of the 1st of February, 1873,* and he is still buoyed up with the hope that he will be able, with the assistance of the Turks, to recover the district of Zaida that was wrested from him in 1868 by the Sultan of Lahej. I have not succeeded in inducing Ali-bin-Mana to pay me a friendly visit, so that I do not know the nature of the connection he has formed with Turkish authorities. There is reason to believe that he is to receive an allowance from the Turkish Government in Yemen, and I have also been informed that a detachment of Turkish troops is shortly expected in his country.

6. It has already been communicated to Sir Henry Elliot, at Constantinople, by the Foreign Office, that Her Majesty's Government wish the independence of the native Chiefs in the vicinity of Aden should be respected, and that any attempt to subvert their authority would not be viewed with indifference by Her Majesty's Government. I have, therefore, only to solicit your Grace's immediate consideration to my letter of the 10th of February, 1873.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. W. SCHNEIDER.

Inclosure 2 in No. 52.

Brigadier-General Schneider to the Duke of Argyll.

Aden, May 12, 1873.

My Lord Duke,

I DO myself the honour to forward a copy of my latest despatch, dated the 12th May, 1873, to the Government of Bombay.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. W. SCHNEIDER.

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* *See post* No

Inclosure 3 in No. 52.

Brigadier-General Schneider to Mr. Ginnè.

Aden, May 12, 1873.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to report, for the information of Government, that the young Chief Ali bin Mookbil Abdul Hadee paid me a visit on the 9th May. He succeeded as Ameer of the Dhali tribe, on the death of his uncle Shafel bin Abdul Hadee, and was formally recognized as such by the Government of India, as intimated in Government Resolution, No. 4,024, in the Political Department, dated 5th July, 1872.

2. In paragraph 4 of my letter of the 5th instant, I mentioned that Turkish influence was being actively exercised in the country of the Ameer, and the object of the visit of Ali bin Mookbil, the first he has made since his accession to power, was to bring this personally to notice, and to seek advice as to how he should act.

3. The Ameer had obeyed the order he received from the Turkish authorities some months ago, and had been to Kattaba to make his submission, which has led to the appointment of a Moohafiz in his country, who is at present billeted in his palace. This officer levies a tax of 8 per cent. on all goods arriving from Aden which remain for sale at Dhali, and 2½ per cent. on those proceeding to Aden. The cesses derivable from the weekly fair held at Dhali have been farmed out for 222 dollars per annum to Mahomed Mussood, the Ameer's uncle; while the Ameer is pledged to pay the Turkish authorities at Kattaba 800 dollars per annum from his revenue, and he is to receive a monthly salary of 40 dollars. The Ameer has also been required to give a hostage for his good behaviour, who is required to reside in Taizz.

4. It will be observed that the information given in person by the Ameer is different from that given by me in paragraph 4 of my letter of the 5th instant, to which I have alluded in paragraph 2.

5. The young Ameer, whose territory is on the border of the district of Kattaba, felt himself unable to resist the pressure that was put upon him by the Turkish authorities, and expressed his anxiety to revert to his former independence.

6. I reminded Ali bin Mookbil of the intimation I had made to him, under the orders of the Government of India, viz., that the proceedings of the Turks in Yemen towards the Chiefs around Aden were believed not to be authorized by the Ottoman Government, and, I added, I had also some time ago addressed the Moutasarif at Taizz on the same subject.

7. On the Ameer asking what he should do, I again advised him to inform the Turkish authorities that he was the stipendiary of the British Government, and that the connection of the Ameer with us dated from a period long anterior to the time at which they commenced the conquest of Yemen. He was anxious to know whether he should forcibly reject the Moohafiz who had been appointed to his country. To this I replied I could not recommend him to do so, and that it would be better to leave matters as they stood, because I entertained the expectation that the Arab Chiefs with whom we have engagements would shortly be left undisturbed. I further stated that a friendly understanding existed between the British and the Ottoman Government, and that the Ameer should avoid the commission of any act that could be considered hostile to the Turks.

8. Government will perceive that the petty Chiefs and Sheikhs on the borders of Yemen who are allied to us by Treaty engagements or as stipendiaries, have a difficult part to play in resisting the overtures of their powerful neighbours and co-religionists with whom they wish to stand well, and that our position at Aden will continue to be disturbed until the Turkish authorities are required to abstain from all interference with them under pressure from the Home Government.

7. Copy of this communication has been forwarded to the Secretary of State for India.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. W. SCHNEIDER.

Inclosure 4 in No. 52.

Brigadier-General Schneider to the Duke of Argyll.

Aden, May 19, 1873.

My Lord Duke,

I HAVE the honour to transmit, for your Grace's information, copy of my despatch of the 18th May, 1873, to the Government of Bombay.

I am, &c.

(Signed) J. W. SCHNEIDER.

Inclosure 5 in No. 52.

Brigadier-General Schneider to Mr. Gonne.

Aden, May 18, 1873.

Sir,

IN accordance with the directions received from his Excellency the Governor in Council, in a cipher telegram dated the 11th May, I dispatched to Ali bin Mana, the Howshebee Sultan, a letter the next day, of which the following is a copy:—

"We have now received the orders of the great Government to inform you, with reference to your recent visit to, and communications with, Taizz, that persistence in subjecting yourself to Turkish troops, or the reception of Turkish troops in your country, will be followed by the instant cessation of your stipend and such other measures as the British Government may see fit to adopt."

2. To this Sultan Ali bin Mana has sent the subjoined reply:—

"To the Governor of Aden, our dear and sincere friend.

"Your letter has arrived, and I have understood its contents. As to the Turks, you say cut them off from entering my land. Then I cannot hinder them, (because) they are the soldiers of the Government. The land is God's and the Sultan's (of Room). The whole district could not hinder them. As to my pay, if it is cut off on account of the fault of the Turks, (then) for me my own judgment (will remain to be acted on). And concerning the roads, if my pay is cut off, it will cut off the roads; and I have a wild country. My supper will be on (one) hill and my dinner on (another) hill.* And salutation."

3. The letter I transmitted to Ali bin Mana was carefully rendered into Arabic. It will be seen that he has evaded the position, and professes he is unable to hinder the Turks from entering his country. The land, he says, belongs to God and the Sultan of Room, and that the whole district could not prevent their coming. He puts in a protest against his stipend being stopped, for the fault of the Turks, as he terms it; and threatens, in such case, to interrupt the traffic passing through his country.

4. Before I addressed Ali bin Mana he had sent, as usual, for the allowance to which he had become entitled for the past two months; and prior to its again becoming due it is possible the Governor-General of Yemen will have received instructions to abstain from further interference with the Howshebee and other petty chiefs in the vicinity of Aden, and this would become speedily known to the Howshebee.

5. The messenger that I sent for the purpose has returned, with information that there are no signs at present of the early arrival of Turkish troops in the Howshebee country; and I think it would be advisable to await the result of the communication that his Excellency in Council stated in his telegram had been made to the Home Government regarding the proceedings of the Turkish authorities in Yemen, in connection with Ali bin Mana, before adopting any other measures against him.

6. When Turkish influence and interference are withdrawn, this troublesome Chief will, I hope, be brought to reason. I doubt whether he will dare to interrupt the roads through his country on his stipend ceasing, remembering the chastisement that was inflicted on the Lahej and Fooahlee chiefs some years ago; but, in the event of such a contingency, it would be necessary to enter the Howshebee country.

7. An expedition into the interior should be avoided at this advanced season of the year, if possible, owing to the extreme heat that the troops would encounter.

8. I shall not fail to communicate by telegraph anything of importance that may occur.

9. Copy of this letter has been transmitted to the Secretary of State for India.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. W. SCHNEIDER.

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* This means, the Sultan thinks it will be difficult to find or catch him.

Inclosure 6 in No. 52.

Brigadier-General Schneider to the Duke of Argyll.

Aden, May 26, 1873.

My Lord Duke,

IN continuation of my cypher telegram of the 21st instant, informing your Grace that a detachment of twelve Turkish soldiers had arrived on the preceding day at Shuka, in the Howshebee country, near Zaida, the frontier of Lahej, I have the honour to report that, under orders received by telegraph from the Government of Bombay, I have warned Ahmed Mookhtar Pasha, the Governor-General of Yemen, that, in sending troops to the above-named district he is acting contrary to the assurances given by the Ottoman Porte to Her Majesty's Government, and will be answerable for the consequences.

2. The Sultan of Lahej came to Aden yesterday to represent in person the presence of Turkish troops in territory that was ceded to him by the Howshebee Chief in 1868, although the Sultan does not appear to have taken formal possession of any land beyond Zaida, and he pointed out the difficulty of his position.

3. I could only inform the Sultan that I believed the location of Turkish troops in the Howshebee district was authorized by the Ottoman Porte; that I thought they would be withdrawn, and that I considered he had no cause to fear. I added I felt confident that Government would protect his interests.

4. The Sultan then informed me that Ali bin Mana, the Howshebee, supported by the appearance of Turkish troops at Shuka, was instigating the Sheikhs of some of the sub-tribes of the Abdalee-Lahej by letters, to throw off their allegiance to him and make their submission to the Turks, which, the Howshebee observed, would tend greatly to their honour and advantage. On my asking the Sultan whether he had any apprehensions that any of his subjects would revolt, he replied there was no saying what might occur if Turkish troops continued in his neighbourhood, as it had a disturbing effect, no one knowing in their ignorance what was going to happen.

5. The Howshebee Chief had also, the Sultan told me, addressed Sheikh Shazif bin Saif, the Alowee Sheikh, who has not responded to the overtures made to him by the Turkish authorities, and has, I believe, no desire to do so.

6. Your Grace will perceive that the position here is becoming intolerable through the aggressive attitude of the Turks. The Sultan stated to me that he has reliable information from Taizz that the small Turkish detachment in Shuka is shortly to be reinforced by a body of Arab irregulars from Yemen, or by "Seebundies," as we call them in India; and that a considerable force of Turkish troops will shortly pass through the Hojariya country to take possession of Mokturee, a rich coffee district, north-west of the Soobahees; and that these troops will then pass through the Howshebee district and the country of the Ameer, returning to Taizz *viâ* Kattaba. In fact, if the Sultan of Lahej is correctly advised, the Turks propose to make a reconnaissance in the neighbourhood of Aden. There can be only one object in view if this is done, viz., to disturb the minds of the Chiefs and Sheikhs who have not made their submission to the Ottoman Porte, and to lead them to suppose that the British Government is powerless to prevent the extension of Turkish influence and conquests in the vicinity of Aden.

7. If the Turks continue to interfere with the Chiefs with whom we have Treaty engagements, or who are our stipendiaries, and persist in locating troops near Aden, it appears to me that there will be no alternative left but to occupy Lahej in force, and to act against any refractory Chief as circumstances may dictate.

8. I am well aware that it may be hazardous to expose British troops to the heat that must be encountered in the lowlands of Arabia at this season of the year, but, as I have observed to your Grace, the position of the British Government at Aden will be unbearable if any petty and contemptible Chief, who has hitherto been subordinate to it, like the Howshebee, can set its authority and wishes at defiance by making his submission to the Ottoman Porte, and obtaining the presence and assistance of Turkish troops in his country to support him in overt acts of hostility against his neighbours.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. W. SCHNEIDER.

No. 53.

Sir H. Elliot to Earl Granville.—(Received June 19.)

(No. 180.)
Therapia, June 6, 1873.

My Lord,

REFERRING to my despatch No. 175 of the 1st instant, I have the honour to state that, before the receipt of your Lordship's telegram of yesterday's date, I had received from the Porte distinct assurances that Ahmed Eyoub Pasha, the new Governor-General of the Yemen, who left Constantinople yesterday on his way to Hodeida, had been instructed at once to withdraw the troops quartered on the Howshebee Sultan, and to be careful to abstain from interfering in any way with the tribes in friendly relations with Her Majesty's Government enumerated in the letter of the Governor-General of India, inclosed in your Lordship's despatch No. 111 of the 15th ultimo, unless with the previous authorization of the Porte.

There is no telegraphic communication between Constantinople and the Yemen by which these instructions could be sent.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

No. 54.

Mr. Grant Duff to Mr. Hammond.—(Received July 5.)

India Office, July 3, 1873.

Sir,

IN continuation of previous correspondence I am directed by the Duke of Argyll to forward, for the information of Earl Granville, two further letters from the Resident at Aden, dated 28th May and 4th June, 1873, respecting the proceedings of the Turks in the neighbourhood of Aden.

I am, &c.
(Signed) M. E. GRANT DUFF.

Inclosure 1 in No. 54.

Brigadier-General Schneider to the Duke of Argyll.

Aden, May 28, 1873.

My Lord Duke,

I DO myself the honour to transmit a copy of my despatch of this day's date to the Government of Bombay.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. W. SCHNEIDER.

Inclosure 2 in No. 54.

Brigadier-General Schneider to Mr. Gonne.

Aden, May 28, 1873.

Sir,

IN continuation of my letter of the 12th May, 1873, I have the honour to inform Government that I received a letter from the Ameer Ali bin Mookbil on the 23rd idem, forwarding, for my perusal, communications from Khairoola Effendi, the Kaim Makam of the district of Kattaba, and asking for the Resident's advice.

2. The communications referred to reminded the Ameer that, by the grace of the Turkish Government, he had been allowed a stipend of 1,000 krooshs (40 dollars) monthly and 200 krooshs (8 dollars) for a clerk. Among other matters connected with the taxation and civil administration of the Ameer country, allusion was made to the fate of one Hizam al Shormanee, who had resisted Turkish authority, and had been hanged.

3. The Kaim Makam informed the Ameer he had received intimation of the departure of the Mootasarif from Taizz with four regiments, and that his movements would be through the Hojariya and Howshebee country, returning *viâ* Kattaba, and that the Ameer was to make arrangements for his arrival in his district.

The Kaim Makam of Kattaba also forwarded to the Ameer copy of a Proclamation regarding Hizam al Shormanee as a warning. I annex copy of this document.

In returning to the Ameer the documents transmitted for my perusal, I told him I had reported to Government all that has taken and is taking place in his country.

6. Copy of this letter will be forwarded to the Secretary of State for India.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. W. SCHNEIDER.

Inclosure 3 in No. 54.

Notice.

(Translation.)

AFTER glorification of the success of the Turkish arms. As the miserable and cruel Hizam al Shormanee, inhabitant of Sahool, has rebelled and made himself an enemy to the Royal soldiers and to himself, in that he has done evil, closed the roads, acted unlawfully, despoiled the virgins, eaten up the substance of orphans, cut off men's existence, which is unlawful before God, feared not the vengeance of Him who creates night and day, and, with all his misdeeds, did retire into the fortress of Bani Shamsum, and imagined himself secure, because he was tempted by the devil to forget the vengeance of the Lord; then he did as has happened. He then demanded quarter for himself and his household and tribe, and he found the grace of God and the Sultan. Then he turned back, in his arrogance and ingratitude, and thought himself invincible, because of the numerous forces he had collected in his fortress. All men then cried out against his deeds, and their wailings reached his Excellency the Mootasarif, and a Council assembled, and the result of its deliberation was sent to his Highness the Mushir. He, after having perused it, sent forth in justice the mandate that troops should be sent against him (Hizam al Shormanee) to put a stop to his oppressions. Thereon the regiment called "Breuji," under the guidance of Khusroo Bey and the Mootasarif, Assistant Sheikh Ameer Bey, advanced against the rebels and outlaws on the 13th of the month of Al Hajjee, 1290, A.H. (23rd February, 1873); then the Royal troops arrived and the rebels confronted them, and there was made on them (the rebels) an onset like that of fierce lions, and it was done unto them as was done unto the other rebels; then some of them were killed and some taken captive; and among the latter was Hizam the evil disposed. Only one of the Royal soldiers fell a martyr, and the report was sent to the Mushir, who, according to the law and justice, decreed that the miserable Hizam should be hung, as a warning to all ranks for what he had done in his time, and he was hung on the 5th of the month Rabe á al Awal, 1290 (14th May, 1873), in the centre of the market-place of Taizz, as an example and warning to the spectators, a retribution in accordance with religious law, which may God preserve, for the sake of him whom he has raised up as a prophet unto his people.

7 *Babee al Awal*, 1220 A.H. (*May* 16, 1873).

(Seal of Khairoola, Kaim Makam of Kattaba.)

Inclosure 4 in No. 54.

Brigadier-General Schneider to the Duke of Argyll.

Aden, June 4, 1873.

My Lord Duke,

I HAVE the honour to transmit, for the information of your Grace, copy of my despatch of to-day's date, forwarded to the Bombay Government.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. W. SCHNEIDER.

Inclosure 5 in No. 54.

Brigadier-General Schneider to Mr. Gonne.

Aden, June 4, 1873.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to report that, on the 27th ultimo, I transmitted the following telegrams in cypher to the Secretary of State for India and his Excellency the Governor in Council:—

"My telegram of 21st. Matters are becoming critical here. The Civil Governor of Taizz has marched with three regiments for Hojariya and Moktaree, north-west of the Soobalees, and it is reported will return *viâ* Kattaba, passing through the country of the

Howshebee and the Ameer. This would be a reconnaissance in the neighbourhood of Aden, and would have a disturbing effect on our position and on the Chiefs around us. It is of importance I should know if the Ottoman Porte has directed the withdrawal of Turkish troops from the Howshebee country. The Resident should be authorized to send troops to Lahej, if he considers it necessary to support the Sultan. The Howshebee Chief has tried to induce a brother of the Sultan of Lahej to make his submission to the Turks, and he has also made overtures to two Sheikhs of the sub-tribes of Lahej, for the same purpose. This is done from the support he derives from the presence of a Turkish detachment and a Turkish emissary at Shuka."

2. On the 29th May I received a telegram from the Foreign Secretary to the Government of India, directing me to warn the Turkish officer again, and not to move troops without orders from home. I was also informed that, if I considered it necessary, I might send an officer to the Sultan of Lahej to reassure him.

3. I, on the same day, telegraphed to his Excellency the Governor in Council and to the Secretary of State for India, that a further detachment of sixty irregular Turkish troops had arrived at Shuka, in the Howshebee country.

4. According to the orders referred to in paragraph 2, I sent a letter to Suleiman Bey, the Mootasarif, on the 30th May, of which the following is a copy:—"We have received information that a further detachment of irregular Turkish troops has arrived at or near Shuka, in the Howshebee district, and also that you propose to pass through this district with some Turkish troops, we have been directed by the Great Government of India to warn you, as the nearest Turkish officer, that such proceedings are contrary to the assurances given by the Ottoman Porte to Her Majesty's Government, and that you will be answerable for the consequences."

5. The Sultan of Lahej has not expressed any further apprehensions at the presence of Turkish troops at Shuka, and has felt re-assured at my having told him I had again addressed the Mushir Ahmed Mukhtar Pasha at Sana under the orders of Government; consequently, I have not yet considered it necessary to send an officer to reside at Lahej. The absence of news from the Sultan and from the Howshebee district leads me to think that Ali-bin-Mana is restrained by the Turkish officer at Shuka from doing anything which might be regarded as a hostile act against Lahej on the part of the Turks.

6. There has been no time to receive a reply to the letter forwarded to the Mushir at Sana, referred to in my letter of the 28th May, 1873; neither have I received an answer to the communication to which I have alluded in paragraph 4 of this letter.

7. Copy of this letter will be sent, as usual, to the Secretary of State for India.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. W. SCHNEIDER.

No. 55.

Mr. Grant Duff to Mr. Hammond.—(Received July 9.)

India Office, July 9, 1873.

Sir,

WITH reference to previous correspondence respecting the proceedings of the Turkish authorities in the neighbourhood of Aden, I am directed by the Duke of Argyll to forward, for submission to Earl Granville, copy of a further telegram from the Resident at Aden, dated 27th June, on the same subject, and to suggest that some inquiry should be made, through Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople, as to the steps taken by the Ottoman Government to restrain these hostile proceedings.

I have, &c.
(Signed) M. E. GRANT DUFF.

Inclosure in No. 55.

Brigadier-General Schneider to the Duke of Argyll.

Aden, June 27, 1873.

(Telegraphic.)

200 Turkish troops, and 200 Arab irregular corps arrived from Kattaba at Raha, capital Howshebee district; 500 Turkish troops at Mursad, in Soobahee country. Troops at Raha and Mursad are to meet at Zaida. Agreement of Ottoman Porte to withdraw troops quartered on Howshebee may not have reached Sana. I will inform Turkish officer of agreement by Ottoman Porte.

No. 56.

Mr. Grant Duff to Mr. Hammond.—(Received July 12.)

India Office, July 11, 1873.

Sir,

I AM directed by the Duke of Argyll to forward, for the information of Earl Granville, copy of the papers respecting the proceedings of the Turkish authorities in the neighbourhood of Aden.

I am, &c.
(Signed) M. E. GRANT-DUFF.

Inclosure 1 in No. 56.

Brigadier-General Schneider to the Duke of Argyll.

Aden, June 6, 1873.

My Lord Duke,

I HAVE the honour to forward a copy of my despatch, of this day's date, to the Government of Bombay.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. W. SCHNEIDER.

Inclosure 2 in No. 56.

Brigadier-General Schneider to Mr. Gonne.

Aden, June 6, 1873.

Sir,

IN continuation of my letters, respectively dated the 12th and 28th May last, I have the honour to inform Government I have received a letter from an uncle of the Ameer Ali Mookbil, stating that on the return of the latter to Dhali, after visiting the Resident, he was summoned to Kattaba by the Kaim Makam, and has been imprisoned in that place. The Kaim Makam has appointed Mohammed Mussood, another uncle of the Ameer Ali Mookbil, to be the Moodeer, or Superintendent of Dhali.

2. The Ameer Ali Mookbil receives a stipend of 50 dollars a month from Government, under the sanction of Government Resolution No. 1024, in the Political Department, dated 5th July, 1873.

3. I have mentioned to Government that Ali Mookbil had made his submission to the Turkish Government in Yemen under pressure, and wished to withdraw from that position. I conclude he has been imprisoned for visiting the Resident at Aden.

4. Copy of this letter will be sent to the Secretary of State for India.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. W. SCHNEIDER.

Inclosure 3 in No. 56.

Brigadier-General Schneider to the Duke of Argyll.

Aden, June 13, 1873.

My Lord Duke,

I DO myself the honour to transmit a copy of my despatch, with accompaniments, of to day's date, to the Government of Bombay.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. W. SCHNEIDER.

Inclosure 4 in No. 56.

Brigadier-General Schneider to Mr. Gonne.

Aden, June 13, 1873.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to annex, for the information of Government, translations of replies received from Sooleiman Noorie the Mootasarif of Taizz to the communications I

addressed to him on the 25th and 30th May, under orders from the Bombay Government and the Government of India. Copies of the communications so sent were entered in my letters dated the 28th May and the 4th June, 1873.

2. It will be seen that the Mootasarif states he forwarded to Ahmed Mookhtar Pasha at Sana the letter inclosed to his care under flying seal, and that he simply acknowledges the warning I gave him as the nearest Turkish officer regarding his proposed movement through the Howshebee district, adding that my letter will be sent to the Mushir, and that an answer will be sent when received.

3. The Mootasarif's first letter was written from the Zoreykee country, a coffee district south of Taizz and Moktaree. These places are on the highlands of Yemen. The messenger who conveyed my second letter to the Mootasarif states that he had moved with 800 Turkish troops and two light field guns to the Athwaree district, shown to the north-east of Moktaree in the map attached to Captain Prideaux's report on the tribes in the neighbourhood of Aden.

4. Copy of this letter and its accompaniments will be forwarded to the Secretary of State for India.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. W. SCHNEIDER.

Inclosure 5 in No. 56.

Suleiman Noorie Bey to Brigadier-General Schneider.

(Translation.)
(After compliments.) 9 *Rabea Akher*, 1290. (*Received June* 9, 1873.)

WE have received your letter as well as the one written to his Excellency the Mushir Ahmed Mookhtar Pasha. May God keep his glories and his Highness. We have sent his letter by a special messenger, and as soon as we receive the answer we will send it to you. May God protect you. We write this to you according to the friendship and love.

Written from the camp in the Zoreykee country from Mountain Moruf.

Inclosure 6 in No. 56.

Suleiman Noorie Bey to Brigadier-General Schneider.

(Translation.)
(After compliments.) (*Received June* 11, 1873.)

WE have received your letter and understood its contents. We will send it to his Excellency the Mushir, and when we receive the answer will send it to you, May God preserve you.

Inclosure 7 in No. 56.

Brigadier-General Schneider to the Duke of Argyll.

Aden, July 6, 1873.

(Telegraphic.)
TROOPS Mursad and Raha, returned to Taizz and Kattaba. Troops at Shuka in Houshebee country not yet withdrawn.

No. 57.

Earl Granville to Sir H. Elliot.

(No. 172.)
Foreign Office, July 18, 1873.

Sir,

I TRANSMIT to you herewith the accompanying copy of a letter with its inclosure from the India Office respecting the proceedings of the Turkish authorities in the

neighbourhood of Aden;* and I have to instruct your Excellency to ascertain from the Porte the steps that have been taken by the Ottoman Government to restrain these hostile proceedings.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 58.

Sir H. Elliot to Earl Granville.—(*Received July* 26.)

(No. 247.)
Therapia, July 18, 1873.

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship herewith a copy of the answer that I have received from Raschid Pasha to the communications which I had been instructed to make to him respecting the proceedings of the Turkish authorities towards the Arab tribes in the neighbourhood of Aden, and at Shuhur and Makulla.

The order to evacuate the dwelling of Hoswhebee Sultan was not given without repugnance, but its occupation is alluded to in the note as a regrettable accident, and Her Majesty's Government may probably be satisfied that the Porte will have warned the military authorities against all aggressive acts from which they will be likely to have again to retreat.

I have, &c,
(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

Inclosure in No. 58.

Raschid Pasha to Sir H. Elliot.

M. l'Ambassadeur,

Sublime Porte, le 15 *Juillet*, 1873.

LE Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique semble se préoccuper outre mesure de la politique du Gouvernement Impérial, dans le Yemen en général, et en particulier de l'attitude que nos troupes tendent à prendre dans ces localités.

Permettez-moi de faire observer à votre Excellence que cette préoccupation, je pourrai dire cette inquiétude, n'est nullement fondée, et que l'incident isolé de Hoschpy Sultan ne suffit pas, à lui seul, pour faire supposer au Gouvernement Impérial des intentions bien éloignées de sa politique traditionnelle.

Ce n'est pas ici le moment de chercher à constater ou à invalider l'indépendance séculaire que le Gouvernement Britannique invoque pour les neuf tribus de Lohidge, Faudaly, &c., et pour le pays d'Adramut, pas plus qu'il ne s'agit de contester la validité des Traités que le Gouvernement Britannique a conclus avec les tribus susdites; ce que je tiens à faire connaître, sans toutefois préjuger de l'avenir, c'est que la politique du Gouvernement Impérial n'a point varié dans le Yemen et que nos troupes ne sont pas animées de sentiments étrangers aux dispositions dont nous sommes pénétrés nous-mêmes.

L'incident, que j'appelerai volontiers l'accident, de la demeure de Hoschpy Sultan,—unique fait d'ailleurs dont le Gouvernement Britannique puisse se prévaloir,—présenté à distance et dépourvu de détails, n'est pas suffisant pour être considéré comme peignant une situation. D'ailleurs le Gouvernement Impérial à peine en a-t-il été informé que, sans hésiter sur les conséquences fâcheuses qui pourraient porter atteinte au prestige de son drapeau, il s'est empressé d'ordonner que la demeure de Hoschpy Sultan soit immédiatement évacuée. Je suis convaincu en outre que les détails que nous attendons sur cette occupation seront tels qu'ils expliqueront le fait d'une manière bien différente que le Gouvernement Britannique a pu l'interpréter.

A part ce fait je ne vois dans l'ensemble de la situation au Yemen que l'effet des rapports pleins de cordialité qui règnent entre nos autorités et les pays d'alentour. Cet échange de bons procédés et de sympathies mutuelles, puisant sa source dans le contact fréquent d'un bon voisinage, peut-être aussi dans le sentiment d'une religion commune, est de nature à rassurer le Gouvernement Britannique plutôt que de lui porter ombrage.

Je ne puis autrement expliquer l'apparition de nos employés dans le Chakha et Mankalla, aussi bien que dans les neuf tribus alliées du Gouvernement Britannique. Quant aux navires sous pavillon Ottoman qui fréquenteraient Adramut, quelle conséquence peut-on retirer si ce n'est que le commerce est florissant, que les besoins des populations augmentent tous les jours par le fait de la civilisation—ce qui dénote la marche ascendante du progrès et du commerce, choses que l'Angleterre a toujours envisagées avec satisfaction.

* No. 55.

Rapports de bon voisinage et simplement amicaux, développement inévitable du progrès et de la civilisation, respect absolu des us et coutumes de nos voisins, telles sont les bases de notre politique et de notre programme dans le Yemen. Nous voyons avec plaisir que les tribus aux environs d'Aden entretiennent des relations cordiales avec les autorités Anglaises. Nous constatons avec satisfaction que ces peuplades trouvent un débouché avantageux et lucratif de leurs denrées sur les marchés d'Aden, et notre ferme intention n'est point certes de troubler un état de choses aussi satisfaisant. J'aime à penser que ces explications franches feront disparaître les préoccupations du Gouvernement Britannique et dissiperont jusqu'à l'ombre du doute que le fait regrettable et encore inexpliqué de Hoschpy Sultan aurait pu faire naître sur nos intentions.

Veuillez, &c.
(Signé) RASHID.

No. 59.

Mr. Grant-Duff to Mr. Hammond.—(*Received July 29.*)

India Office, July 28, 1873.

Sir,

WITH reference to previous correspondence, I am directed by the Duke of Argyll to forward, for the information of Earl Granville, a further letter from the Resident at Aden, dated 1st July, 1873, respecting the proceedings of the Turks in the neighbourhood of Aden.

I am, &c.
(Signed) M. E. GRANT DUFF.

Inclosure 1 in No. 59.

Brigadier-General Schneider to the Duke of Argyll.

Aden, July 1, 1873.

My Lord Duke,

IN continuation of the correspondence forwarded to your Grace, respectively dated the 4th and 13th June, 1873, I have the honour to trasmit copy of my despatch of the 1st of July of the same year to the Bombay Government.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. W. SCHNEIDER.

Inclosure 2 in No. 59.

Brigadier-General Schneider to Mr. Gonne.

Aden, July 1, 1873.

Sir,

IN continuation of previous correspondence, I have the honour to annex translation of a reply to the communication addressed by me to Ahmed Mookhtar Pasha under the orders of Government, warning him that sending troops to the Howshebee country was contrary to the assurances given by the Ottoman Porte to Her Majesty's Government, and that he would be responsible for the consequences.

2. It will be seen that the Pasha declares that the assurances given by the Ottoman Porte had reference only to the independence of the Sultan of Lahej, and not to any other Chiefs; and that, as the Howshebee district does not form part of, nor has any connection with Lahej, he does not consider the English Government has any cause of complaint. On the contrary, the Pasha conceives he is deserving of thanks from it, for securing peace and order in the Howshebee country, as he has done elsewhere.

3. Ahmed Mookhtar Pasha carefully avoids all allusion to the position of the Howshebee Sheikh, as a Chief who has Treaty relations with the British Government, and who has, so to say, been subordinate to it since the occupation of Aden.

4. I have nothing to add to the frequent representations I have submitted as to the necessity of the Ottoman Porte being required to withdraw from the position it has assumed towards the Arab Chiefs around Aden, who are the stipendiaries of the British Government. The proceedings of the Turks have a disturbing effect on our position here, and unless prompt action is taken, all Chiefs, who have hitherto been guided by English influence and authority, will sooner or later make their submission to the Ottoman Porte.

5. The Alowee Sheikh, whose territory adjoins that of the Ameer, has given in, after a long resistance, to the pressure brought to bear against him. The Turkish troops recently passed through his country on the march from Kattaba to Raha, and he was helpless. His son is now a hostage with the Turks.

6. On the 26th June I sent the following telegram to the Secretary of State for India and to his Excellency the Governor in Council:—

"200 Turkish troops and 200 Arab irregular corps arrived from Kattaba at Raha, capital of the Howshebee District. 800 Turkish troops at Mursad in Soobahee country. Troops at Raha and Mursad are to meet at Zaida. Agreement of Ottoman Porte to withdraw troops quartered on the Howshebee may not have reached Sana. I will inform Turkish officer of agreement by Ottoman Porte."

7. On the 27th June I received a hurried visit from Sultan Mahomed, the brother of the Sultan of Lahej, to express the anxiety felt by the latter at the approach of a considerable body of Turkish troops to Zaida. I was able to reassure the Sultan by communicating to Sultan Mahomed a portion of Ahmed Mookhtar Pasha's reply concerning the independence of Lahej; and I also acquainted him with the fact that the Ottoman Porte had consented to withdraw the Turkish troops quartered on the Howshebee. Sultan Mahomed informed me he had reason to believe that it was the intention of the Turkish Commander to coerce the Foodhlee Sultan into submission, and then to turn on the Yaffaees for the same object on returning through their country to Kattaba.

8. I attach copy of a letter I sent on the 27th June to Sooleiman Noorie, the Mootasarif of Taizz, who, when last heard of, was in the Athwaree District.

9. I can only await the development of the Turkish plans and movements. If the troops reported to be at Raha and Mursad concentrate at Shuka or Zaida, I shall send one of my assistants to Lahej to reassure the Sultan and to keep me well informed of all that is taking place.

10. I will conclude this despatch by reporting that Sultan Haidara, the Foodhlee, paid me a first visit a few days ago, on which occasion I presented him with half-a-dozen sporting rifles, as sanctioned under G. R. No. 359, of 20th January, 1873. He asked me what course he should adopt with regard to the overtures that would probably be again made to him by the Turks to make his submission to the Ottoman Porte. I advised him, as I had formerly done in writing, that he should say he had Treaty relations with the British Government, and was its stipendiary. I also stated my opinion that he had no cause for apprehension, judging from a communication I had recently received from Government. The Foodhlee Sultan expressed the most friendly feeling towards the British Government, and I took advantage of his visit to show him some of our establishments and heavy ordnance at Aden.

11. Copy of this letter has been forwarded to the Secretary of State for India.

I have, &c
(Signed) J. W. SCHNEIDER.

Inclosure 3 in No. 59.

Ahmed Mookhtar Pasha to Brigadier-General Schneider.

16 *Rabi-us-Thain*, 1290 (*June* 12, 1873).

AFTER protestations of sincerity and friendship, and inquiry concerning your gracious self, your letter dated 25th May, 1873, has reached. It informs me that the despatch of Turkish soldiers to the Howshebee country is contrary to the positive assurances given by the Sublime Porte to the English Government. Certainly, the compact which you mention is in existence, and it was brought about by a conference which took place between his Excellency the English Ambassador at the capital and the Sublime Porte.

The august and binding mandate has reached your friend, and a copy also was transmitted to the aforesaid Ambassador. The purport of it was about the settlement made in the case of the Lahej man, Fadhl bin Mohsin, the Abdalee, and his territory; it referred to no one else.

Therefore no movement has taken place on our part that is in any way contrary to the assurance aforesaid—that is the august mandate. This will be self evident to you, for it is patent on the face of the order.

You must also know that the assurance given by the Sublime Porte to its friend the English Government has not been departed from one jot by me; but it seems to me from your letter that you imagine the Howshebee country to be connected with Lahej, and

that the occupying force; that is the "gendarmerie" which has been given, according to custom, to accompany our "Moodeer" in the Howshebee country, you consider to be war and peace soldiers, who, when necessary, can move about, and that we sent them for another purpose.

Accordingly, as I see you have that mistaken idea, it is incumbent on me to make some explanation on the point.

The state of matters is this. The Howshebee country has up to the present time been an independent district, and its people, when they saw others like themselves leading a life of security, begged that Ali bin Mana be appointed "Moodeer" over them, so that they may be guarded and protected from the outrages and encroachments of the neighbouring Arabs. And it is not hidden that the care and protection of lives and estates, and good management of the affairs of mankind is in accordance with the dictates of civilization. More especially are the Howshebee people singularly situated. The establishment of security and peace for them, the guardianship and protection of them against their enemies, has no connection with Lahej: it therefore has no connection with the aforesaid assurance, or is it dependent thereon.

The above mentioned Ali bin Mana has been appointed "Moodeer" of the Howshebee country on the condition he shall become one of the servants of the Turkish Government; and no Power permits its servants to be left without "gendarmerie," and, according to his request, twenty or thirty men have been given to him, as to other "Moodeers" of districts.

This will be a source of protection to the inhabitants from the evil doing of their enemies. We have no other wish or desire than to discharge our duty—by giving peace to all, by protecting the people, and by seeking their benefit.

The English Government which approves of freedom, should therefore consider us deserving of thanks for our conduct in this matter, and we have been in expectation of receiving such thanks for our good intentions; however, on the contrary, our actions have been "protested" against. We do not say we are not sorry.

You say Turkish soldiers have been sent; we do not understand you. If you mean a large force has been sent thither, then the greater portion of the force are Arabs, thirty or so in number, the rest are a few "gendarmerie." No injury will be done by them, such a small number of "gendarmerie" has never been sent before. Perhaps the quiet of the country where they have been sent will in itself convince you they are in our own territory, and they have received orders to do duty in the Howshebee country.

I do not wish that you should put this meaning at all on my acts, so I again reiterate that the Howshebee country is not considered as being connected with Lahej, and the matter is not of such a nature as to affect the question of Lahej, for which the promise was given.

And a country like this (Howshebee) naturally comes under regulation: nor is it lawful to delay obtaining for the inhabitants peace and security. I wait the result of the compact which has been entered into between the two Governments concerning Lahej, and we hastened to write this to you to give you information according to the friendship and alliance that exists between us.

(Seal)

Commander of the 7th Turkish Army Corps, and Walee of Yemen.

Inclosure 4 in No. 59.

Brigadier-General Schneider to Suleiman Nouric Bey.

June 27, 1873.

(After compliments.)

WE have the pleasure to acknowledge the receipt of your friendly letter, forwarding to us a reply from his Excellency Ahmed Mookhtar Pasha, which we have read and understood, and copy of which we shall forward to the Great British Government, as well as to the great Government of India. In the meantime we have to inform you that we have received an intimation from the great Government of India advising us that the Ottoman Porte has agreed to withdraw the Turkish troops quartered on the Howshebee country, and you will doubtless receive instructions in the matter.

We have learnt with surprise that a further detachment of Turkish troops has arrived at Raha, the capital of the Howshebee districts. What we have above communicated to you must, we think, convince you that sending troops to the Howshebee country is contrary to the assurances given by the Ottoman Porte to Her Majesty's Government.

We shall send copy of this letter to the Great British Government, and we request you will forward it to his Excellency Ahmed Mookhtar Pasha.

And salutations.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. W. SCHNEIDER.

No. 60.

Mr. Grant Duff to Mr. Hammond.—(Received July 31.)

India Office, July 31, 1873.

Sir,

WITH reference to my letter of the 28th instant, I am directed by the Duke of Argyll to forward, for the information of Earl Granville, copy of a further despatch from the Resident at Aden, dated 3rd July, 1873, respecting the proceedings of the Turks in the neighbourhood of Aden.

I am, &c.

(Signed) M. E. GRANT DUFF.

Inclosure 1 in No. 60.

Brigadier-General Schneider to the Duke of Argyll.

Aden, July 3, 1873.

My Lord Duke,

I DO myself the honour to forward a copy of my despatch of yesterday's date to the address of the Government of Bombay.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. W. SCHNEIDER.

Inclosure 2 in No. 60.

Brigadier-General Schneider to Mr. Gonne.

Aden, July 2, 1873.

Sir,

ADVERTING to my letter of the 6th June, 1873, reporting that the Ameer Ali bin Mookbil, a stipendiary of the British Government, had been imprisoned at Kattaba, I have the honour to state that the following facts have come to my knowledge:—

The Turks being desirous of capturing the Fort of Husin bin Manea, in the Ameer's country, proposed to send troops there. The Ameer on hearing this suggested that he should be allowed to return to Dhali with a few Turks, when he would require the garrison to capitulate and make over the fort to the Turkish authorities. This proposition was accepted, and on Ali bin Mookbil obtaining entrance to the fort, he dismissed the Turks who had accompanied him with some threats. The Kaim Makam, or Ruler of Kattaba thereupon sent a detachment of troops to the fort under notice and took it, making a prisoner a second time of Ali bin Mookbil, who was conveyed to Kattaba.

Copy of this letter will be forwarded to the Secretary of State for India.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. W. SCHNEIDER.

No. 61.

Mr. Grant Duff to Mr. Hammond.—(Received August 5.)

India Office, August 5, 1873.

Sir,

WITH reference to previous correspondence, terminating with your letters of 19th and 29th ultimo,* I am directed by the Duke of Argyll to forward, for the information of

* Forwarding copies of Nos. 57 and 58.

Earl Granville, copy of a further telegram from the resident at Aden, dated 30th July, 1873, respecting the proceedings of the Turks in the neighbourhood of Aden.

I am, &c.
(Signed) M. E. GRANT DUFF.

Inclosure in No. 61.

Brigadier-General Schneider to the Duke of Argyll.

(Telegraphic.) *Aden, July* 30, 1873.

NEW Governor-General of Yemen has not withdrawn Turkish detachment from Shuka in Howshebee country, thirty Arab irregular troops arrived there four days ago from Taizz. The Ameer is still a prisoner at Kattaba.

No. 62.

Earl Granville to Sir H. Elliot.

(No. 186.)

Sir, *Foreign Office, August* 9, 1873.

I TRANSMIT for your Excellency's information the accompanying copy of a telegram, communicated by the India Office from the Resident at Aden, respecting the proceedings of the Turks in the neighbourhood of that place.*

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 63.

Sir H. Elliot to Earl Granville.—(Received August 15.)

(No. 272.)

My Lord, *Therapia, August* 5, 1873.

NOTWITHSTANDING the assurance officially given by the Porte by their note of the 15th ultimo, of which a copy was inclosed in my despatch No. 247 of the 18th, with regard to the Arab tribes in the neighbourhood of Aden, as the Sultan's Ministers seemed very little acquainted with the proceedings of the late Governor-General of the Yemen, I thought it desirable to inform Raschid Pasha of the substance of General Schneider's despatch of the 12th of May,† which formed one of the inclosures to your Lordship's despatch No. 151 of the 10th of July.

His Excellency had seemed to imagine that Her Majesty's Government had attached an exaggerated importance to the measures adopted by the Governor-General, and I wished to show him that there were sufficient grounds for looking at them in a serious light.

Raschid Pasha, on this occasion, repeated the declaration that Her Majesty's Government might rest assured that unequivocal instructions have been given to the new Governor-General of the Yemen to abstain from interfering with the tribes which are allied to the Indian Government by Treaty engagements.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

No. 64.

Mr. Merivale to Mr. Hammond.—(Received September 6.)

Sir, *India Office, September* 5, 1873.

IN continuation of previous correspondence on the subject of Turkish proceedings in Yemen, I am directed by the Duke of Argyll to forward to you, herewith, for the information of Earl Granville, copies of further papers from the Government of India; and I am to request that you will call his Lordship's especial attention to the 2nd paragraph of Lord Northbrook's letter in which the Secretary of State for India is invited "to urge Her Majesty's Government to demand from the Porte the immediate release of Ameer

* No. 61. † Inclosure 3 in No. 52.

Ali bin Mookbil and abstinence from interference in the affairs of his tribe." From the later intelligence conveyed in Brigadier Schneider's letter to the Government of Bombay, dated 9th August, paragraph 2, and which forms inclosure to Aden letter No. 46, it will be observed that "the Ameer is still a prisoner at Kattaba."

I am to add that your Department have already received copies of the Aden correspondence, referred to in the Viceroy's Secret letter, No. 67.

I am, &c.
(Signed) HERMAN MERIVALE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 64.

The Governor-General of India in Council to the Duke of Argyll.

My Lord Duke, *Simla, August* 4, 1873.

WITH reference to the correspondence ending with the despatch from the Secretary in the Secret and Political Department, dated 20th of June last, we have the honour to forward, for the information of Her Majesty's Government, a copy of the papers noted in the accompanying Abstract of Contents, regarding the proceedings of the Turks in Yemen.

2. In the letters dated the 6th June and 2nd ultimo, copies of which have been forwarded by the Resident direct to your Grace, General Schneider reports the imprisonment of Ameer Ali bin Mookbil by the Turks. This Chief is head of the Ameer tribe, and receives a stipend from the British Government. We must decline to recognize Mahomed Mussood, whom the Turks have appointed in his stead, as Moodeer or Superintendent of Dheli, and we would urge Her Majesty's Government to demand from the Porte the immediate release of Ameer Ali bin Mookbil and abstinence from interference in the affairs of his tribe. We would further invite attention to the undermentioned letters from the Resident at Aden to the Bombay Government, copies of which were transmitted direct to the India Office by General Schneider, dated 12th, 18th, 19th, 26th, and 28th May, 4th and 13th June, and 2nd July, 1873.

We have, &c.
(Signed) NORTHBROOK.
NAPIER OF MAGDALA.
R. TEMPLE.
B. H. ELLIS.
H. W. NORMAN.
A. HOBHOUSE.
E. C. BAYLEY.

Inclosure 2 in No. 64.

The Governor of Bombay to the Viceroy of India.

(Telegraphic.) *Bombay, May* 30, 1873.

FOLLOWING from Resident, Aden, dated 29th:—

"Sixty Turkish irregular troops have arrived at Shuka, in the Howshebee country."

Copy sent by Resident to Secretary of State.

Inclosure 3 in No. 64.

The Viceroy of India to Sir H. Elliot.

(Telegraphic.) *Simla, June* 3, 1873.

FRERE reports great anxiety at Aden from Turkish proceedings contrary to assurances given to you. Turkish soldiers are quartered in Howshebee and Ameer country. I apprehend possibility of collision with us, and think that Turkish officers should be given to respect tribes allied to us.

Inclosure 4 in No. 64.

Sir H. Elliot to the Viceroy of India.

(Telegraphic.) *Constantinople, June* 5, 1873.

"ACCUSE reception payée." I have been authorized confidentially to inform Her Majesty's Government that orders will be sent to withdraw the company (?) quartered on the Howshebee Sultan.

Inclosure 5 in No. 64.

Mr. Aitchison to Mr. Gonne.

(Telegraphic.) *Simla, June* 11, 1873.

YOURS 30th. Porte agrees to withdraw troops quartered on Howshebee Sultan. Secretary of State considers movement of troops to Lahej unnecessary.

Inclosure 6 in No. 64.

Mr. Gonne to Mr. Aitchison.

(Telegraphic.) *Bombay Castle, June* 13, 1873.

REFERRING to recent correspondence regarding the proceedings of the Turkish authorities in Yemen, I am directed to forward to you, for the information of the Government of India, the accompanying copy of a letter from the Political Resident at Aden, dated 28th May, 1873.

Inclosure 7 in No. 64.

Brigadier-General Schneider to Mr. Gonne.

(Telegraphic.) *Aden, May* 28, 1873.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of a cypher telegram from his Excellency the Governor in Council, dated the 21st of May, and to state that, in compliance with the order contained therein, I addressed the following letter to Ahmed Mukhtar Pasha, the Governor-General of Yemen, under flying seal through Suleiman Noorie Bey, the Mootasarif or Civil Governor of Taizz:—

"To his Excellency Ahmed Mukhtar Pasha, Governor-General (Wali) of Yemen.

"We beg to inform you we have been directed by the Great Government of India to warn you that in sending Turkish troops to the Howshebee country you are acting contrary to the assurances given by the Ottoman Porte to Her Majesty's Government, and you will be answerable for the consequences."

2. It was necessary, in my opinion, that I should communicate with the Pasha, as he is the officer who ordered a detachment of Turkish troops to proceed to the assistance of Ali bin Mana, the Howshebee, and the best mode of doing so was to transmit the letter through Suleiman Norie, the Mootasarif at Taizz, with a private request that he would peruse and forward it by express to Sana according to the dictates of friendship that existed between the British Government and the Ottoman Porte.

Inclosure 8 in No. 64.

The Governor of Bombay to the Viceroy of India.

(Telegraphic.) *Bombay Castle, June* 27, 1873.

FOLLOWING from Resident, dated yesterday:—

"200 Turkish troops and 200 Arab irregular corps arrived from Kattaba, at Raha, capital (of) Howshebee district; 800 Turkish troops at Mussad in Soobahee country. Troops Raha and Mussad are to meet at Zaida. Agreement of Ottoman Porte to withdraw troops quartered on Howshebee may not have reached Sana. I will inform Turkish officers of agreement of Ottoman Porte.

Inclosure 9 in No. 64.

The Viceroy of India to Sir H. Elliot.

(Telegraphic.) *Simla, July* 1, 1873.

HAVE orders been sent by Ottoman Porte to Yemen to withdraw troops from Howshebee and Ameer country? When would they probably reach?

Inclosure 10 in No. 64.

Sir H. Elliot to the Viceroy of India.

(Telegraphic.) *Constantinople, July* 2, 1873.

IN reply to yours of yesterday. The new Governor-General of Yemen left Constantinople on the 5th ultimo, with orders to withdraw from the place.

Inclosure 11 in No. 64.

The Viceroy of India to the Governor of Bombay.

(Telegraphic.) *Simla, July* 4, 1873.

AMBASSADOR, Constantinople, telegraphs on 2nd:—

"New Governor-General of Yemen left Constantinople 5th ultimo, with orders to withdraw troops from Howshebee and Ameer country. Please communicate Resident, Aden."

Inclosure 12 in No. 64.

The Governor of Bombay to the Viceroy of India.

(Telegraphic.) *Guneshkhind, July* 5, 1873.

YOURS yesterday communicated to Resident, Aden. Telegram from him has crossed, and says troops at Mussad and Raha returned to Taizz and Kattaba. Troops in Howshebee country and at Shuka not yet withdrawn. Resident forwarded copy to London.

Inclosure 13 in No. 64.

Mr. Aitchison to Mr. Gonne.

(Telegraphic.) *Simla, July* 10, 1873.

RESIDENT, Aden, should telegraph as soon as he hears new Governor, Yemen, has arrived.

Inclosure 14 in No. 64.

The Governor of Bombay to the Viceroy of India.

(Telegraphic.) *Guneshkhind, July* 12, 1873.

RESIDENT, Aden, telegraphs yesterday:—

"New Governor, Yemen, arrived on 30th June at Sana."

Inclosure 15 in No. 64.

Mr. Gonne to Mr. Aitchison.

Bombay Castle, June 27, 1873.

IN continuation of the letter from this office, dated the 25th instant, I have the honour, by direction of his Excellency the Governor in Council, to forward, for the information of the Government of India, the accompanying copy of a news report received from the Resident at Aden.

Inclosure 16 in No. 64.

News Report from Aden, from 11th to 17th June, 1873.

IT is reported that the Moktaree and Soobahee tribes attacked the Turkish troops, about 800 strong, on the 13th June between the Athwaree and Moktaree districts. Both these places are on the Jabal, or highlands of Yemen. The above-named tribes were repulsed by the Turks with a loss, it is said, of 13 men. Ameen bin Kassim, one of the principal Sheikhs in Yemen, was killed in the engagement. Many of the Moktaree tribe, who are employed at Aden in coaling and in the Public Works Department, are returning to their country to defend their homes.

Her Majesty's ship "Kestrel" and "Rifleman" are in harbour.

The Dutch man-of-war "Schomer" arrived at Aden on the 14th and sailed on the 16th June, bound for Acheen.

(Signed) J. W. SCHNEIDER, *Brigadier-General, Political Resident, Aden.*

Inclosure 17 in No. 64.

Mr. Gonne to Mr. Aitchison.

Bombay Castle, July 5, 1873.

IN continuation of the letter from this Office, dated the 27th ultimo, I have the honour, by direction of his Excellency the Governor in Council, to forward, for the information of the Government of India, the accompanying copy of a news report received from the Resident at Aden.

Inclosure 18 in No. 64.

News Report from Aden, from 18th to 25th June, 1873.

CONSIDERABLE changes are about to take place in the administrative and executive Turkish officers in Yemen. Ahmed Ayoub Pasha has been appointed Governor-General in the room of Ahmed Mukhtar Pasha; Pootroo Pasha is named as Deputy to the Governor-General; Mahomed Pasha becomes Mootasarif of the Province of Taizz; and Ali Pasha has been posted to Hodeida. It is generally supposed that the officers above-named have been sent from Constantinople, as those who have hitherto been in power have not carried out the instructions they received to abstain from interfering with Chiefs around Aden who have Treaty relations with the British Government, or who are its stipendaries.

The Moktarees, a tribe of Arabs on the highlands of Yemen north-west of Aden, have tendered their submission to the Turks, as well as the Jelledee, sub-tribe of the Soobahees, whose territory borders on that of the Moktarees.

A detachment of Turkish troops is said to have been stationed at Dhali, the capital of the Ameer's country; the Ameer is a stipendiary of the Government.

Sultan Haidara, the Foodhlee, is in Aden, on a visit to the Resident.

Although the weather is hot and trying the health of the garrison and of civil population, is, on the whole, satisfactory.

Supplies continue plentiful. The water stored in the Tawella tanks in the crater is

not yet exhausted, a great boon to the natives of the settlement who purchase about 3,000 gallons per diem.

(Signed) J. W. SCHNEIDER, *Brigadier-General, Political Resident, Aden.*

Inclosure 19 in No. 64.

Brigadier-General Schneider to the Duke of Argyll.

Aden, August 9, 1873.

My Lord Duke,

I HAVE the honour to forward copy of my despatch of to-day's date to the Government of Bombay.

2. I beg to invite your Grace's attention to paragraph 4 of that communication, and to the original letter I transmit with it, addressed by Mohamed Rasheed Pasha, the newly-appointed Mootasarif of Taizz to Abdoola-bin-Salim, the Rijaee, a stipendary of Government and a Sheikh of one of the sub-tribes of the Soobahees.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. W. SCHNEIDER.

Inclosure 20 in No. 64.

Brigadier-General Schneider to Mr. Gonne.

Aden, August 9, 1873.

Sir,

ON the 4th July, I received the subjoined telegram in cypher from his Excellency the Governor in Council:—

"New Governor-General of Yemen left Constantinople on the 5th ultimo, with orders to withdraw troops from the Houshabee and Ameer country."

2. On the 30th July, I transmitted a reply as follows, in cypher:—

"Your Excellency's telegram of 4th July. New Governor-General of Yemen has not withdrawn Turkish detachments from Shuka in Howshebee country. Thirty Arab irregulars arrived there four days ago from Taizz. The Ameer is still a prisoner at Kattabu. Secretary of State informed."

2 *a*. Ahmed Ayoub Pasha arrived at Sana on the 30th June, and he has had ample time to carry out the orders he received at Constantinople, which he has failed to do to the present date, so far as the Howshebee district is concerned. I am informed there are no Turkish troops at present in the Ameer's country, although the Ameer himself is a prisoner. The latest advices tell me he is at Taizz.

3. I annex translation of a letter addressed on the 26th July by Mohamed Rasheed Pasha, the recently appointed Mootasarif of Taizz, to Salim bin Abdoolla the Rijaee, a stipendary of Government, and a Sheikh of one of the sub-tribes of the Soobahees, from which it will be seen that the Turkish authorities now in Yemen continue to interfere with the tribes around Aden, notwithstanding, it is believed, that they received orders to refrain from so doing from the Sublime Porte, before leaving Constantinople.

4. Either the Ottoman Government is acting in bad faith towards Her Majesty's Government, or the Turkish subordinates in Yemen are disobeying the instructions they have received, and as I am disposed to think the latter will be the more probable, I purpose sending to the Secretary of State for India the original communication addressed to the Rijaee Sheikh, bearing the seal of Mohamed Rasheed Pasha, the Mootasarif of Taizz, in the hope that it will be forwarded to the Foreign Office for transmission to Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople for such action as may be thought to be necessary.

5. I may explain that Mohamed Rasheed Pasha's letter was sent by the Rijaee Sheikh to the Sultan of Lahej, who forwarded it to the Resident.

6. Copy of this despatch has been sent to the Secretary of State for India.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. W. SCHNEIDER.

Inclosure 21 in No. 64.

Mohamed Rasheed Pasha to Shaikh Salim bin Abdullah.

(Translation.)
(After compliments.) 1 *Jamad al Akbir*, 1289 (*July* 26, 1873).

WE inform you that on this date a letter came from the Moodeer of the Howshebee country, in which he says that you made an attack upon some of his people, from whom you took property, namely, bullocks and sheep. How often have you not restrained yourself? Indeed, we are astonished at such acts, because you know that all of you are subjects of the High Government. This act is not proper, as it is contrary to law. He who commits outrages like these will come under question and punishment. Certainly, this is my advice to you. You should know that blame cannot be on the head of our Government. Do not do so again. Now it is due to you, and necessary to all who are wise, and who keep themselves away from doing acts contrary to law to behave with one another in a just and praiseworthy manner. It is necessary for you to send an explanation in full details for our satisfaction, and to abstain from committing outrages on the subjects of the High Government. On the arrival of your answer and detailed explanations, the affairs will be settled according to the high justice. Beware of doing contrary to law. Be this known to you.

No. 65.

Earl Granville to Sir H. Elliot.

(No. 214.)
Sir, *Foreign Office, September* 10, 1873.

I HAVE been requested by Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the India Office to bring the following particulars to your Excellency's notice:—

On the 6th of June last, the Resident at Aden (General Schneider) reported that on his return from the Residency, the Ameer Ali bin Mookbil, who is the recipient of 50 dollars a month from the Indian Government, was summoned by the Turkish authorities to Kattaba, where he was seized and imprisoned without any apparent cause, and his uncle Mohamed Mussood was installed by the Turkish authorities as his successor.

It appears that, subsequently, on hearing that the Turks were anxious to get possession of the Fort of Hussin bin Manea in his territory, Ali bin Mookbil suggested that he should be allowed to return to Dhali with a few Turks, when he would himself persuade his people to surrender the fort. The Turks agreed to his proposal, but on their arrival within the fort they were sent off with threats.

Upon this intelligence reaching the ears of the ruler of Kattaba, a force was immediately sent to capture the fort, and Ali bin Mookbil was brought back to Kattaba a prisoner, where he now lies.

As this Chief is in friendly relations with Her Majesty's Government, and receives a stipend from them, I have to instruct your Excellency to call the attention of the Porte to his case, with a view to his immediate release, and that further interference in the affairs of this tribe may be abstained from.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 66.

Sir H. Elliot to Earl Granville.—(Received September 19.)

(No. 325.)
My Lord, *Therapia, September* 8, 1873.

Upon my communicating to Raschid Pasha the substance of your Lordship's despatches Nos. 172 and 186 of the 18th July and 9th of August, his Excellency at once telegraphed, through Egypt, to the New Governor of the Yemen, to abide strictly by his instructions in regard to the Arab tribes, and, if any troops still remained in the places named in those instructions, to withdraw them at once.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

No. 67.

Mr. Grant Duff to Mr Hammond.—(Received September 27.)

(Confidential.)
Sir, *India Office, September* 27, 1873.

IN continuance of previous correspondence ending with your letter of the 10th instant,* on the subject of Turkish proceedings in the neighbourhood of Aden, and the imprisonment of Ali bin Mookbil, a stipendary of the British Government, I am directed by the Duke of Argyll to forward to you herewith, for the information of Lord Granville, copy of letter of the 21st ultimo, from the Political Resident at Aden, reporting certain hostile proceedings towards the Sultan of Lahej, on the part of Ahmed Ayoob Pasha, the newly appointed Governor-General of Yemen.

His Grace entirely concurs in the observations made by Brigadier Schneider, in his letter on the proceedings of the Turkish Governor; and I am to request that, in laying these papers before his Lordship, you will move him to give such further instructions to Sir Henry Elliot as may insure the observance by the Turkish local authorities of the assurances made by the Sublime Ottoman Porte.

I am, &c.
(Signed) M. E. GRANT DUFF.

Inclosure 1 in No. 67.

Brigadier-General Schneider to the Duke of Argyll.

My Lord Duke, *Aden, August* 21, 1873.

IN continuation of my letter of the 9th August, I have the honour to forward, for your Grace's information, copy of my despatch of the 21st idem, from which it will be observed that the newly appointed Governor-General of Yemen has written a threatening letter to the Sultan of Lahej, thus acting in a manner which appears to be entirely opposed to the assurances given by the Sublime Porte to Her Majesty's Government, as well as to the instructions which Ahmed Ayoob Pasha would appear to have received before he left Constantinople.

The Pasha's original letter is annexed to the correspondence.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. W. SCHNEIDER.

Inclosure 2 in No. 67.

Brigadier-General Schneider to Mr. Gonne.

Sir, *Aden, August* 21, 1873.

IN continuation of my letter of the 9th instant, I have the honour to forward translation of a letter addressed to the Sultan of Lahej by Ahmed Ayoob Pasha, the recently appointed Governor-General of Yemen, the original of which I propose to send to the Secretary of State for India to show that the Pasha has conveyed a covert threat to the Sultan notwithstanding the assurances that have been given by the Porte to the British Government.

2. I mentioned in paragraph 7 of my Report of the 1st July, 1873, that I had been able to reassure the Sultan by communicating to his brother a portion of Ahmed Mookhtar Pasha's letter, in which he admitted he had received orders to respect the independence of Lahej; and the Sultan, in replying to a letter he had received from the late Governor-General, observed he was aware of what had been written to the Resident. The new Mushir Ahmed Ayoob acknowledges this reply and endeavours to intimidate the Sultan into making his submission to the Turkish Government. I shall advise the latter to take no notice of the Mushir's letter.

3. As I have received no answer to my telegram dispatched in cypher on the 30th July and referred to in my letter of the 9th August, I have thought it advisable to address the following communication to Ahmed Ayoob Pasha, so that he may know the Resident is acquainted with the orders and instructions he has received from the Ottoman Government:—

* Forwarding copy of No. 65.

"We have to bring to your Excellency's notice that the detachment of Turkish regular and irregular troops sent by your predecessor, Ahmed Mookhtar Pasha, to Shuka, in the Howshebee country, have not yet been withdrawn.

"We received an intimation a short time since from the Great Government that your Excellency had been sent from Constantinople with instructions from the Sublime Porte to remove the above-mentioned troops from the Howshebee country,

"We trust your Excellency will promptly act in conformity with the orders you have received in respect of the matter we now bring to your notice, and so cause affairs to revert to their normal condition by abstention from interference with chiefs and tribes around Aden with whom the British Government has Treaties, or who are its stipendiaries."

"We learn with regret that the Ameer Ali-bin-Mookbil, a stipendiary of the British Government, is still a prisoner at large."

4. Copy of this letter will be forwarded to the Secretary of State for India.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. W. SCHNEIDER.

Inclosure 3 in No. 67.

Ahmed Ayoob Pasha to Sheikh Fadhl bin Mohsin.

(Translation.)

(After compliments.) *Senna, 2 Jumad al Akhir and 15 Jamo-az (July 27, 1873).*

THE answer that you have sent to our predecessor his Excellency Ahmed Mookhtar Pasha, which is dated 5th Jamad (1st July) reached us, and its meaning was to the effect that you were obliged for the explanation afforded concerning the promise you saw in a letter that was sent by the above mentioned (Ahmed Mooktar Pasha) to General Schneider, the Resident at Aden. Well, finally the above-mentioned explanation was not to any special purport. The object of that declaration was merely to show that action will be taken according to the orders that may be obtained from the Sublime Porte. Then, your mind has not grasped the end that naturally will result from the effect of the said declaration and by reason of your going in the path of negligence, and it will be proved that your negligence has overcome your discretion. Now, it must be borne in mind and considered that every Government will not relinquish the rights that revert to its sovereignty and that it guards and protects, and who has already tendered his submission and entered within the pale of subjection; likewise, he who has the ability to do so: nor does it delay to make an example of and punish those who walk in the path of evil and sedition.

May you remain in a good state.

No. 68.

Sir John Kaye to Lord Tenterden.—(Received October 11.)

India Office, October 10, 1873.

SIR JOHN KAYE presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and forwards herewith, for the information of Earl Granville, copy of a telegram this day received from the Political Resident at Aden, respecting the refusal of the Turkish authorities in the Yemen to withdraw their troops from Shuka.

Inclosure in No. 68.

Brigadier-General Schneider to the Duke of Argyll.

Aden, October 10, 1873.

(Telegraphic.)

I HAVE received reply from Governor-General of Yemen to my letters of 19th August and 17th September, in which he was requested to withdraw Turkish troops from Shuka, according to orders and instructions he has received from the Ottoman Porte. He ignores these orders and instructions, and states Howshebee district is annexed to province of Taizz.

Government of India informed.

No. 69.

Lord Tenterden to Mr. Grant-Duff.

Foreign Office, October 13, 1873.

Sir,

I AM directed by Earl Granville to acknowledge the receipt of your letters of the 27th ultimo and the 10th instant, with respect to the encroachment of the Turkish troops upon the independent territories now occupied by the Arab tribes in the vicinity of Aden; and, whilst referring you to Mr. Hammond's letter of the 24th ultimo,* I am to request that you will inform his Grace the Duke of Argyll, that copies of the despatches from the Political Agent at Aden, inclosed in your letters above referred to, will be forwarded to Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople, with instructions to press the Porte to issue further stringent instructions to the Governor-General in Yemen to put a stop to the proceedings complained of.

I am, &c.
(Signed) TENTERDEN.

No. 70.

Sir J. Kaye to Lord Tenterden.—(Received October 14.)

India Office, October 13, 1873.

Sir,

IN continuation of previous correspondence, terminating with Mr. Grant Duff's letter of the 27th ultimo, I am directed by the Duke of Argyll to forward, for the information of Earl Granville, copy of a letter recived from the Government of India, respecting the proposal to take certain Chiefs in the vicinity of Aden under British protection; and I am to request that you will furnish his Grace with any observations that the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs has to make upon the subject as the Government of India press for instructions.

I am, &c.
(Signed) J. WM. KAYE.

Inclosure in No. 70.

The Governor-General of India in Council to the Duke of Argyll.

Simla, August 11, 1873.

My Lord Duke,

WITH reference to the correspondence on Yemen affairs, ending with our despatch dated 4th August, 1873, we have the honour to inquire whether Her Majesty's Government would approve of instructions being issued to the Political Resident at Aden, directing him to enter into engagements with the Chiefs marginally noted,† in accordance with the terms of paragraph 7 of our communication to your Grace's address, dated the 11th of April last.

2. In the meantime we have directed General Schneider to let these Chiefs know that the recent change of Turkish Governors in Yemen was made in consequence of the remonstrances of the British Government to the Porte, and that the representations of Her Majesty's Government, in regard to Yemen affairs, have been in all respects complied with.

We have, &c.
(Signed) NORTHBROOK.
NAPIER OF MAGDALA.
R. TEMPLE.
B. H. ELLIS.
H. W. NORMAN.
A. HOBHOUSE
E. C. BAYLEY.

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* Forwarding copy of No. 66.

† 1. The Abdalee; 2. Fooldlee; 3. Akrabee; 4. Howshebee; 5. Alowee; 6. Ameer; 7. Soubalee; 8. Yaffaee; 9. Owlakee.

No. 71.

Sir J. Kaye to Lord Tenterden.—(Received October 14.)

India Office, October 14, 1873.

SIR JOHN KAYE presents his compliments to Lord Tenterden, and, by direction of the Duke of Argyll, begs to forwapd, for the information of Earl Granville, copy of a telegram just received from the Viceroy of India, dated 13th October, soliciting the views of Her Majesty's Government with respect to the expediency of taking certain Chiefs in the neighbourhood of Aden under British protection; and he would be glad to learn, for communication to his Grace, whether Earl Granville sees any objection to the proposal of the Government of India.

Inclosure in No. 71.

The Viceroy of India to the Duke of Argyll.

October 13, 1873.

(Telegraphic.)

WITH reference to Resident at Aden's telegram regarding Yemen, may I give orders to protect Lahej and stipend Chief, if necessary, and enter into Treaty as proposed in our despatch, 11th August.

No. 72.

Minute by Earl Granville.

I SUGGEST to Mr. Gladstone that we should make another representation to the Porte, telling them that such a measure has been proposed; but, before taking it into consideration, we think it right to make another representation to them of the absolute necessity of the *bond fide* carrying-out their assurances.

No. 73.

Memorandum by Mr. Gladstone.

I ENTIRELY concur in Lord Granville's Memorandum just received.

There is every imaginary objection to the proposed Protectorate. It involves the most indefinite obligations. It binds us to support those over whose conduct to others we have no control. It threatens to impair, and that chronically, our good understanding with Turkey which is so necessary to the peace of the East. Nothing but absolute necessity can warrant our interference and then only within the limits, moral and local, to which that necessity extends. What we are fairly entitled to ask is, that Turkey shall commit no act of aggression against these chieftains, and this we have every reason to believe we can obtain, from our general experience at Constantinople.

It would be unpardonable to make another Gold Coast of this.

(Signed) W. E. G.

October 17, 1873.

No. 74.

Earl Granville to Sir H. Elliot.

(No. 229.)

Foreign Office, October 17, 1873.

Sir,

WITH reference to your Excellency's despatch No. 325 of the 8th ultimo, I transmit to you copies of two further letters from the India Office with despatches from the Political Agent at Aden,* stating that no notice is taken by the new Governor-General in Yemen of the Porte's instructions to withdraw the Turkish troops from the countries now occupied by the Arab tribes in the vicinity of Aden; and I have to instruct your

* Nos. 67 and 68.

Excellency to communicate to Rashid Pasha the information contained in General Schneider's despatches, and to request that further stringent orders may be issued.

I am, &c.

(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 75.

Earl Granville to the Duke of Argyll.

(Private.)

Walmer Castle, Deal, October 19, 1873.

My dear Argyll,

I SENT your letter and its inclosures from Northbrook to Gladstone with a suggestion that we should make should make another representation to the Porte, telling them that such a measure has been proposed, but before taking it into consideration, we think it right to make another representation to the Turkish Government of the absolute necessity of their carrying out with good faith the assurances they have already given.

I send you his memorandum. Pray let me know whether you agree.

Yours, &c.

(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 76.

Mr. Merivale to Lord Tenterden.—(Received October 24.)

India Office, October 24, 1873.

My Lord,

WITH reference to previous correspondence respecting the proceedings of the Turks in the neighbourhood of Aden, I am directed by the Duke of Argyll to forward, for the information of Earl Granville, copy of the telegrams noted on the margin, on the same subject; and I am to request that you will move his Lordship to state what steps he purposes taking in the matter, so that his Grace may be enabled to send early telegraphic instructions to the Viceroy of India, as requested in his telegram of 23rd instant, wherein it is stated that "matters are getting serious and instructions urgently requested."

I am, &c.

(Signed) HERMAN MERIVALE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 76.

Brigadier-General Schneider to the Duke of Argyll.

Aden, October 20, 1873.

(Telegraphic.)

SOME followers of Abdoolla, brother of Sultan, having made an attack on Bazaar at Lahej, were beaten off by Sultan, with two killed, and ten wounded, on both sides. Sheikhs mediated between Sultan and his brother Abdoolla, who gives his son, and the son of Abdoolla Kureem, as hostages for good conduct. A detachment of about twenty-five Turkish soldiers from Shuka has entered and occupied the fortified house of Abdoolla in Lahej territory; and commanding officer asks Sultan to give hostages, as Abdoolla and the nephews have made their submission, and are Turkish subjects. Sultan declines. I have written to commanding officer, requiring him to vacate Lahej territory immediately, otherwise he will be answerable for consequences. Looking to conduct of Turkish officers, and disregard of orders (?) from Ottoman Porte, I do not expect my letter will have effect. Commanding officer at Taizz meditates occupation of fort at Zaida, and has asked Sultan's permission to go there, which has been refused. I have recommended Sultan not to attack Turkish detachment in Abdoolla's house, as it would complicate matters; and commanding officer declares to Sultan he has had no hostile intention. If detachment is not withdrawn from Lahej, the time seems to have arrived to send troops on our part. I will dispatch an officer to Lahej, to support Sultan.

Copy sent to Government of India.

Inclosure 2 in No. 76.

Brigadier-General Schneider to the Duke of Argyll.

Aden, October 22, 1873.

(Telegraphic.)

TURKISH officer declines to remove Turkish detachment from Lahej territory, and states that he is there by order of Commander and Acting-Governor of Taizz to protect Abdoolla who is a subject of (?) In this emergency can Ottoman Porte be requested to send an order by telegraph to Governor of Taizz to care of Resident to withdraw troops (?) from Howshebee country and Lahej. Copy to Government of India.

Inclosure 3 in No. 76.

The Viceroy of India to the Duke of Argyll.

Simla, October 23, 1873.

(Telegraphic.)

RESIDENT at Aden's telegram of 21st :—

"Matters at Aden are getting serious. I have authorized Resident to send troops to protect Sultan of Lahej but not to attack Turkish troops. Early orders are urgently required."

No. 77.

Earl Granville to Sir H. Elliot.

Foreign Office, October 25, 1873.

(Telegraphic.)

RESIDENT at Aden reports Turkish officer declines to remove his troops from Lahej territory, and states they are there by order of Acting-Governor of Taizz, to protect Abdoolla, Sultan's brother. Tell this to the Porte, and express the astonishment of Her Majesty's Government at the failure of the Turkish Government to carry out their assurances, and press for immediate instructions, by telegraph, to the new Governor, to withdraw troops from Howshebee country and Lahej.

No. 78.

Sir H. Elliot to Earl Granville.—(Received October 28.)

(No. 367.)

Therapia, October 14, 1873.

My Lord,

IN consequence of a private letter from General Schneider, informing me that the new Governor of the Yemen had not withdrawn the troops from the Howshebee country, I made a fresh representation on the subject to the Porte; and renewed orders were sent to the Wali to abstain from all interference with the independent tribes, and holding him responsible for any hostile proceedings against them.

I have since spoken seriously to Raschid Pasha, warning him that, if the promise made to Her Majesty's Government on this matter is not observed, it will not be lightly regarded.

His Excellency said, that the orders to the Governor-General had been sufficiently distinct, and he could not account for their having been disregarded; but he was confident that those which had been repeated would produce their effect.

Raschid Pasha alluded to the difficulty of controlling the military Commanders, and said that he had been reflecting upon the propriety of sending a civil officer to keep the Porte informed on the political questions affecting the Yemen.

Throughout the whole Empire, for some time past, the orders of the Porte have been very negligently obeyed, and a greater exercise of authority is much called for.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

No. 79.

Mr. Merivale to Lord Tenterden.—(Received November 1.)

India Office, October 31, 1873.

My Lord,

WITH reference to previous correspondence, terminating with your letter of 25th October, 1873, I am directed by the Duke of Argyll to forward, for the information of Earl Granville, copy of further papers respecting the proceedings of the Turks in the neighbourhood of Aden, and the steps taken by the Government of India in consequence thereof.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HERMAN MERIVALE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 79.

The Governor-General of India to the Duke of Argyll.

Simla, October 2, 1873.

My Lord Duke.

WITH reference to our despatch, dated the 11th of August last, we have the honour to invite your Grace's attention to a letter from the Resident at Aden, dated 26th August, 1873, a copy of which was forwarded direct to your Grace's address, as affording an illustration of the line of conduct pursued by the Turkish authorities in Yemen.

2. The Bombay Government authorized the Resident to issue the warning proposed by him, and we have approved their action.

We have, &c.

(Signed) NORTHBROOK.
NAPIER OF MAGDALA.
R. TEMPLE.
B. H. ELLIS.
H. W. NORMAN.
A. HOBHOUSE.
E. C. BAYLEY.

Inclosure 2 in No. 79.

Brigadier-General Schneider to Mr. Gonne.

Aden, August 26, 1873.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to report that the Sultan of Lahej visited me yesterday and complained of the conduct of his brothers Abdoolla and Abdool Kureem, and of his nephew Fadhil, the son of the former.

2. It appears that the nephew was sent to Taizz and Sana without the permission of the Sultan, to make profession of obedience and submission to the Turkish authorities on behalf of the brothers Abdoolla and Abdool Kureem, and has brought back messages from the Pasha which are intended to lower the position of the Sultan in his territory.

3. I asked the Sultan why he had not summoned his brothers and nephew to his presence to give an account of their misconduct, on which he replied that he was afraid to do so, as they lived in a fortified house and would probably refuse to attend, when blood might be shed.

4. The Sultan observed that he must mark his sense of his brothers' disloyalty towards himself, and he proposed to do so by stopping their stipends for a time, and by directing that no one should cultivate their lands. I objected to the latter course, and pointed out to the Sultan that this would be punishing the cultivators; but I offered no opposition to the first measure, as I considered the treasonable acts of Abdoolla and Abdool Kureem should not be passed over.

5. I have advised the Sultan to issue the most peremptory orders to his brothers and nephew that they are to hold no communication with the Turkish authorities without his consent, and to say that, if they conducted themselves in any way calculated to undermine his authority, he will apply to the Resident to have them removed from Lahej.

6. I trust Government will allow me to convey a warning in its name, through the Sultan, to the brothers Abdoolla and Abdool Kureem and the nephew Fadhil that, if they

persist in acting in a manner opposed to the wishes and orders of the ruling power in Lahej, Government will not hesitate to permit them to be deported from their country.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. W. SCHNEIDER.

Inclosure 3 in No. 79.

Brigadier-General Schneider to the Duke of Argyll.

Aden, October 27, 1873.

(Telegraphic.)

A FIELD force, composed of artillery, infantry, British and native, and sappers, 328 officers and men all told, under command of Colonel Mackenzie, marched on Lahej this morning, to support Sultan. Fifty sabres of Aden troop were at Lahej on 24th, with Captains Hunter and Gabb. Resident leaves this afternoon.

Government of India informed.

No. 80.

Mr. Merivale to Lord Tenterden.—(Received November 4.)

India Office, November 3, 1873.

My Lord,

WITH reference to previous correspondence, I am directed by the Duke of Argyll to forward, for the information of Earl Granville, copy of a further telegram from the Resident at Aden, dated 30th October, respecting the proceedings of the Turks in the neighbourhood of Aden.

I am, &c.
(Signed) HERMAN MERIVALE.

P.S.—Inclosed, also, is a telegram just received from the Resident at Aden, reporting the reinforcement of the Turkish troops at Lahej.

H. M.

Inclosure 1 in No. 80.

Brigadier-General Schneider to the Duke of Argyll.

Aden, October 30, 1873.

(Telegraphic.)

RESIDENT returned from Lahej this morning, having visited Zaida, present frontier fort of Sultan. British troops encamped little east town of Lahej. All quiet and well. Turks not yet withdrawn from Abdoolla's house. Forty-five Turkish troops arrived at Shuka on 27th.

Copy to Bombay.

Inclosure 2 in No. 80.

Brigadier-General Schneider to the Duke of Argyll.

Aden, November 3, 1873.

(Telegraphic.)

INCREASE in number Turkish troops in Abdoolla's house, Lahej, and at Shuka. Numbers difficult to ascertain; shut up in fortified houses. Thought to be fifty at former, and thirty at latter place.

Reinforcements expected of forty or fifty Turks at Shuka to-day. All well and quiet at Lahej. Weather cold.

Government of India informed.

No. 81.

Sir H. Elliot to Earl Granville.—(Received November 8.)

(No. 388.) *Therapia, October 30, 1873.*

My Lord,

YOUR Lordship's instruction No. 229 of the 17th instant and telegram of the 25th instant, relative to the continued presence of the Turkish troops in Lahej and other districts in the immediate neighbourhood of Aden, reached me on the same day.

I immediately instructed Mr. Pisani to bring the whole of the facts before the Minister for Foreign Affairs, and to press for telegraphic orders to the Governor-General of the Yemen to vacate immediately the Lahej and Howshebee territories: as also to express the astonishment of Her Majesty's Government at the failure of the Porte to carry out its repeated assurances.

I also furnished Mr. Pisani with a translation of the Governor's letter of the 27th of July to the Sultan of Lahej,* in which his Excellency pointed out in significant terms the advantages of submission to the Porte, and to the danger of persevering in the path of sedition.

At Raschid Pasha's own request, I subsequently supplied his Excellency with a French translation of the written instruction which I had given Mr. Pisani on the subject, and which he had already read out to him. I have now the honour to transmit a copy of it to your Lordship; as also of Mr. Pisani's report of his interview, in which he warned his Excellency, in accordance with instructions received on a previous occasion from your Lordship that Her Majesty's Government would certainly not see with indifference an encroachment on the tribes in the vicinity of their possessions at Aden. His Excellency promised to bring the matter before the Cabinet, and urge the Minister of War to send the telegraphic orders requested by your Lordship.

In connection with this matter, I have further the honour to inclose in translation, and to call your Lordship's attention to, a Report from the Governor-General of Yemen to the Grand Vizier, dated August 6, and communicated to me by the Porte in Turkish just before the receipt of your Lordship's last instructions. It is therein stated that the inhabitants of the Howshebee country have, at their own desire, been accepted as subjects of the Porte, and that orders had been given to send, if necessary, a Turkish force into the district to preserve tranquillity and maintain the rights of the Porte, and that the only foundation which exists to justify the pretensions of this Embassy is the fact that the Chiefs of the tribes which dwell in the vicinity of Aden receive a little money from the British Government.

I have, &c.
(For Sir Henry Elliot),
(Signed) SIDNEY LOCOCK.

Inclosure 1 in No. 81.

Instructions to Mr. E. Pisani.

Therapia, October 26, 1873.

YOU will call on the Minister for Foreign Affairs and inform his Excellency that I have received instructions to communicate the following facts on the subject of the proceedings of the Ottoman civil and military authorities towards the Arab tribes in the vicinity of Aden.

On the 1st of July Her Majesty's Political Agent at Aden was able to report that he had to some extent succeeded in reassuring the Sultan of Lahej by communicating a portion of Ahmed Moohktar Pasha's letter in which he admitted having received orders from the Porte to respect the independence of Lahej. The Sultan, in replying to a letter from the late Governor, mentioned that he was aware of what had been written to the Resident. Thereupon the new Mushir, Ahmed Ayoob Pasha addressed a letter to the Sultan of Lahej which is being transmitted to the British Government, and a translation of which you will hand to his Excellency, in order that he may be able to judge how far it accords with the instructions of the Porte.

It contains in the latter part of it no very indistinct intimation that he will do well to make his submission to the Ottoman Government.

On the 19th August and again on the 17th September the Resident at Aden wrote to the new Governor Ahmed Ayoob Pasha mentioning that he was aware that his

* Inclosure 3 in No. 67.

Excellency had been sent from Constantinople with instructions from the Sublime Porte to remove the Turkish troops from the Howshebee country, and expressing a trust that those instructions would be promptly acted upon.

On the 10th of this month Her Majesty's Government received a telegram from their Resident at Aden, stating that a reply had been received from Ahmed Ayoob Pasha ignoring the orders of the Porte, and announcing the annexation of the Howshebee country to the province of Taizz.

Lastly, Her Majesty's Government have just received another telegram from the British Resident reporting that the Turkish officer refuses to remove his troops from Lahej, on the ground that they are there by the order of the Acting Governor of the province of Taizz (to which the Governor had announced the annexation of the Lahej country) in order to protect Abdoolla, the Sultan's brother.

In communicating the above facts to his Excellency you will say that Her Majesty's Government are at a complete loss to understand their meaning. When they recollect the assurances that have been so repeatedly given by the Porte that positive orders were being sent to the Governor to withdraw the Ottoman troops and respect the independence of tribes around Aden with whom the British Government has Treaties, and who are moreover its stipendiaries, and when it connects those assurances with the acts of the very Governor who has been sent by the Porte to carry them into effect, their feeling is one of real astonishment.

You will request his Excellency to put me in a position to inform Her Majesty's Government in what view the Porte regards these fresh acts of the Governor of the Yemen, and will once again press for fresh telegraphic orders being sent for the immediate withdrawal of the Ottoman troops from the Howshebee and Lahej territories.

(For Sir Henry Elliot),
(Signed) SIDNEY LOCOCK.

Inclosure 2 in No. 81.

Mr. Pisani to Sir H. Elliot.

Pera, October 29, 1873.

Sir,

IN pursuance of your Excellency's instructions of the 26th instant, I called on Raschid Pasha, and informed him that instructions had reached Her Majesty's Embassy to communicate to the Porte certain facts on the subject of the civil and military authorities' conduct towards the Arab tribes in the vicinity of Aden.

After reading to him my instructions, I told his Excellency that Her Majesty's Government are at a loss to comprehend the meaning of the acts of the Government of Sana, after the repeated assurances of the Porte that orders were sent to the Government to withdraw the Ottoman troops from the house of Howshebee Sultan and to abstain from interfering with the independent tribes in the vicinity of Aden, and most urgently pressed his Excellency to move the Porte to issue telegraphic orders in the proper quarter for the immediate withdrawal of the Ottoman troops from Howshebee and Lahej territories.

I thought it expedient to remind his Excellency of what I told him at the time, that it was against the assumption of jurisdiction over the independent tribes in the neighbourhood of Aden and in alliance with us that Her Majesty's Government protested, long before the incident of Howshebee Sultan. I finally warned his Excellency that Her Majesty's Government will certainly not see with indifference what they consider an encroachment without adopting the measures which they may deem necessary.

Raschid Pasha having expressed a wish to be furnished with a French translation of my instructions for the consideration of his colleagues, I complied with his request.

He promised that he would lose no time in submitting the remarks of Her Majesty's Government in the first meeting of the Cabinet Council, and urge the Minister of War to send telegraphic orders to the military authorities of the Yemen to act in compliance with the demands of this Embassy.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. PISANI.

Inclosure 3 in No. 81.

The Governor-General of Yemen to the Grand Vizier.

August 6, 1873.

(Translation.)

I HAVE made the necessary inquiries regarding the communication and pretensions of the British Embassy with reference to the sending of a coercive military force to certain parts of the Yemen territory, and opposing any interference with the normal administration of those parts, on the ground of their proximity to and relations with Aden.

Among these there is a district called Suheidjeh, some places on the coast side of which are, in fact, dependencies of the Kaza of Mocha, and the inhabitants have always been in a state of submission and tranquillity, whilst the inhabitants on the other side, led by their own inclination, and under the guidance of their Sheikhs and Imans having decided on becoming subjects of the Porte are under the rule of the Kaimakan of Hedgrieh, who, in the exercise of his authority, levies the taxes and defrays the expenditure.

There is no necessity in consequence to send a military force to either of these districts. With regard to the small Nahieh of Hawashib (Howshebee), the inhabitants of this district also having, at their own wish and desire, been accepted as subjects of the Porte, and being still governed as before by their own Mushir Ali Mani Effendi, continue in a state of tranquillity and obedience. Therefore no necessity exists for employment of a coercive military force. But, as I was informed by the Mootasrif and the Commander of the troops at Nafr, that, owing to the eagerness manifested by the inhabitants of the last-mentioned district in placing themselves under the authority of the Porte, Fazil Mohsin, the Sheikh of Lahej, had become their enemy, and had commenced a system of persecution and encroachment, and that they had in consequence petitioned for their own protection, I wrote and recommended, in reply, that solely with the object of maintaining the rights of the Porte, and the tranquillity of the district, an adequate military force should be sent there in case of necessity.

Moreover, the above mentioned Sheikh Fazil, besides interfering vexatiously with the whole district of the Hawashib (Howshebee), has usurped the lands and encroached on the rights of the inhabitants of the locality contiguous to Zaida, which is the property of the Moodeer Ali Mani Effendi, and the seat of the local Government. And as the complaints and murmurs of the people on this account are incessant, I have directed Sheikh Fazil to be civilly told, and made to understand, that if he has landed property in that district he will be allowed to maintain possession only on the condition of his not encroaching on the rights of others, and that he must either submit to the ordinances and authority of the Government or quit the country forthwith.

Notwithstanding, however, that most of the individual inhabitants of the districts referred to have manifested the wish to become Turkish subjects, they have, nevertheless, been left undisturbed in their former condition, and, as regards the relations entertained with the British Government by the tribes which dwell in the neighbourhood of Aden, this must consist of nothing but the fact that that Government gives and assigns a little money to the chiefs of the different tribes. We are, consequently, at a loss to understand here the real motive of the pretensions advanced by the British Embassy.

Abdoolla Mohsin, the elder brother of Fazil Mohsin, the Sheikh of Lahej, and another brother named Abdool Kerim, together with a number of their relations and dependents, spontaneously, and influenced solely by their zeal for Islamism, formerly enrolled themselves as Turkish subjects; and up to the present time have been firm and faithful in their allegiance to the Porte.

But, in consequence of the insults and persecution of their brother Sheikh Fazil, who has violently seized their lands and property, and encroached on their legal rights for a long time past, they have been petitioning for redress and protection, and have recently addressed a special letter to the Commander of the troops at Nafr. And Fazyl, the son of Abdoolla, and several notable members of the family, have been sent to Nafr, for the purpose of communicating personally on this subject.

These persons have reached Sana and having, together with the father and other relatives, taken refuge under the wing of the justice of the Sublime Porte, I have replied that, after their petition had been submitted to the Sultan, measures would be adopted in conformity with his Imperial commands.

No. 82.

Mr. Merivale to Lord Tenterden.—(Received November 14.)

India Office, November 13, 1873.

My Lord,

WITH reference to previous correspondence, I am directed by the Duke of Argyll to forward, for the information of Earl Granville, copy of further despatches from the Resident at Aden, dated respectively 8th and 11th October, respecting the proceedings of the Turks in the neighbourhood; as also a copy of a telegram from the Resident at Aden, dated 8th instant, on the same subject.

I am, &c.

(Signed) HERMAN MERIVALE.

P.S.—It is requested that the attention of Lord Granville may be directed to the suggestion contained in paragraph 2 of General Schneider's letter of 11th ultimo, respecting the letter from the Governor-General of Yemen.

H. M.

Inclosure 1 in No. 82.

Brigadier-General Schneider to the Duke of Argyll.

Aden, October 8, 1873.

My Lord Duke,

I DO myself the honour to transmit a copy of my despatch of to-day's date to the address of the Government of Bombay.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. W. SCHNEIDER.

Inclosure 2 in No. 82.

Brigadier-General Schneider to Mr. Gonne.

Aden, October 8, 1873.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to report that I received a letter on the 1st October, from Ahmed Ayoob Pasha, the Governor-General of Yemen, informing me he had been told by the Mootasarif of Taizz that some Turkish soldiers had deserted from that place, and were in Aden, and requesting me to send them to that officer.

2. Several Turks, apparently deserters, have entered Aden from time to time, but none are to be found there at present. I have written to this effect to the Pasha, and have further added that I am not aware of any Extradition Treaty or understanding between Great Britain and the Sublime Porte as regards the delivering up such persons.

3. In paragraph 384, page 456, vol. 1, of Phillimore's "International Law," it is observed—"The Sublime Porte is accustomed to surrender malefactors who are not subjects; but has refused to surrender political criminals. She appears to have no Treaty on the subject of Extradition."

4. I do not think international usage requires that Turkish deserters should be apprehended by the Resident when claimed; but as it is not desirable that Aden should be a place of refuge for them, I will take care that they do not find admittance to the Settlement. I believe a good many desertions have taken place from the Turkish forces in Yemen, and that the men find their way to Maculla and Shuka along the coast, and from thence to Muscat by buggalow.

Copy of this letter will be sent to the Secretary of State for India.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. W. SCHNEIDER.

Inclosure 3 in No. 82.

Brigadier-General Schneider to the Duke of Argyll.

Aden, October 11, 1873.

My Lord Duke,

IN continuation of my letter of the 21st August and its annexment, I have the honour to transmit copy of my despatch of the 11th October, 1873, to the Government of Bombay, with its inclosures.

2. I also attach the original letter received from Ahmed Ayoob Pasha, the Governor-General of Yemen, in case your Grace should see fit to forward it, through the Foreign Office, to Constantinople.

3. The impression created in my mind by the persistent disregard of orders by the past and present Mushir is, that the Ottoman Porte gives assurances to Her Majesty's Government which its subordinates are instructed to ignore.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. W. SCHNEIDER.

Inclosure 4 in No. 82.

Brigadier-General Schneider to Mr. Gonne.

Aden, October 11, 1873.

Sir,

IN paragraph 3 of my letter of the 21st August last, I informed Government I had addressed Ahmed Ayoob Pasha, the newly-appointed Governor-General of Yemen, requesting him to withdraw the Turkish regular and irregular troops from the Howshebee country, agreeably to the orders he had received on the subject from the Ottoman Porte.

2. As no answer was received to the above communication up to the 16th September, I sent another letter to the Pasha on the 17th of the same month, to the following effect:—

"On the 19th August we had the pleasure to address your Excellency, which we forwarded through Mahomed Raschid Pasha, the Mootasarif of Taizz. We have received no reply to this communication, and fearing it may have miscarried, we now forward a copy thereof.

"Since addressing your Excellency we have received orders from Government to write and remind you of the assurances and instructions of your Government, and to require their fulfilment.

"We were favoured, some time ago, with a letter from Sir Henry Elliot, Her Britannic Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople, in which he informed us your Excellency had taken with you orders not to molest the Chiefs with whom the British Government has Treaties. And salutations."

3. The reply of the Governor-General of Yemen to the above letter, translation of which is annexed, reached me on the 9th October, and its perusal will show that he quite ignores the orders and instructions he is supposed to have received from the Ottoman Porte, and he states that the Howshebee district has been annexed to the Government of Taizz. I reported this by telegraph, on the 10th of the month, to the Secretary of State for India and to his Excellency the Governor in Council.

4. It will also be observed that the Pasha refers to a house* and a garrison of troops at Zaida belonging to the Sultan of Lahej, and that he states he only admits the right of the Sultan to the occupation of this fort on condition of his obeying the orders of the local Government, as Zaida is in the centre of the Howshebee district.

5. I have explained to Government in my letter of the 1st February, 1873,† the circumstances under which the district of Zaida was ceded by Treaty to the Sultans of Lahej by the Howshebee, in the year 1868, and although the Sultan has not apparently cultivated any land beyond the place marked as Zaida in the map which accompanied Major-General Tremenhere's Report of the 15th April, 1872, he has been in undisturbed possession of the country up to that point since the above date: that is to say, for several years before the Turks commenced the conquest of Yemen; and, therefore, the Pasha's claim to exercise any jurisdiction over that part of the Howshebee district, even if its annexation to the province of Taizz were allowed, is simply preposterous.

6. It is difficult to believe that Ahmed Ayoob Pasha is acting without orders from the Ottoman Porte, and a suspicion must arise that the Turkish Government gives

* It is a small fort.

† See *post* No. .

assurances to Her Majesty's Government which its subordinates are instructed to disregard.

7. I have only to record my conviction that, unless prompt and direct measures are adopted to insure the early withdrawal of Turkish troops from the Howshebee country, agreeably to the assurances given by the Ottoman Porte, it will only be a question of time to see all, if not a greater number, of the Chiefs around Aden make their submission to that Power.

8. As regards Ali bin Mookbil being appointed Member of Council at Taiz, I believe the statement to be wholly false. He is well known to be under restraint, and to be separated from his family at Dhali.

9. Copy of this letter has been sent to the Secretary of State, together with Ahmed Ayoob Pasha's original letter in Arabic.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. W. SCHNEIDER.

Inclosure 5 in No. 82.

Ahmed Ayoob Pasha to Brigadier-General Schneider.

(Translation.)
(After compliments.) *7 Shaaban*, 1290. (*Received October* 9, 1873).

WE have received your letter of the 17th September, 1873, and the copy of a letter that was sent before. We have understood their contents. You write concerning the detachment of soldiers which were sent to Shuka by the order, and during the rule of the former Governor-General. This detachment is in the district of Zaida, a place which is the centre of the Howshebee country, and which is annexed to the Government of Taizz. If the Shuka to which you refer is the place within the limits of the Howshebee country, near Zaida, where the Sheikh of Lahej has built a house, and placed a garrison, be it known that such a house, although found in such a place (Zaida), of course belongs to the above-mentioned man (the Sheikh of Lahej). It is lawful that such house and garrison should remain under his control, and his real rights are not to be disputed; but the persons who live in the above-mentioned house must either obey the orders of the local Government, which will be given according to the law, or leave the house. As to the Ameer Ali Mookbil, if he is the man who was the Sheikh of Dhali, the country which joins the district of Kattaba, he is now in Taizz, and is appointed a Member of Council. It will not be said that he is stopped. We write this to you according to friendship. May you remain in good health.

Inclosure 6 in No. 82.

Brigadier-General Schneider to the Duke of Argyll.

Aden, October 20, 1873.

My Lord Duke,

I DO myself the honour to transmit a copy of my despatch of to-day's date, to the address of the Government of Bombay.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. W. SCHNEIDER.

Inclosure 7 in No. 82.

Brigadier-General Schneider to Mr. Gonne.

Aden, October 20, 1873.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to report that, shortly after I had informed the Sultan of Lahej that Government approved of a warning being conveyed to his brother and nephew in its name, to the effect referred to in paragraph 6 of my letter of the 26th August last, the Sultan paid me a second visit, and asked me to assist him in apprehending the above persons.

2. I pointed out to the Sultan that he was the ruler of his country, and should be able to perform his own police duties. I added, that the interference of Government in such a matter would weaken his authority among his people, and that I was sure Govern-

ment would not consent to take part in the proceedings against his brothers and nephews, beyond receiving them in, and deporting them from, Aden.

3. The Sultan left me quite satisfied, and said he would watch for a favourable opportunity before acting.

4. It now appears that the nephews, Nassin and Fadhil, paid another visit to Taizz, notwithstanding the prohibition given by the Sultan to his brothers, Abdoolla and Abdool Kurreem; and on the return of the former a few days ago, some of Abdoolla's followers made an attack on the bazaar at Lahej. The Sultan reports he drove off the aggressors, of whom seven were wounded, and one killed; and that the others had taken refuge in the fortified house occupied by the brothers, who doubtless prompted this outrage. On the Sultan's side, three Arabs were wounded; one has since died.

5. The Sultan had begged me to supply him with some powder and shot for his guns before this occurrence, and I was hesitating to do so; but on a renewal of his application after the attack, I thought it advisable to support him. I have accordingly given him, on payment, 400 lbs. of gunpowder, and some shot of various calibres, which should strengthen his position, and enable him to act against his brothers.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. W. SCHNEIDER.

P.S.—Since writing this despatch, I have received a letter from the Sultan of Lahej, in which he informs me that through the mediation of his Sheikhs and Seyds, he has accepted his nephews, Muasin and Fadhil, sons respectively of his brothers, Abdoolla and Abdool Kureem, as hostages for their good conduct, and that he has suspended hostile proceedings against them.

J. W. S.

Inclosure 8 in No. 82.

Brigadier-General Schneider to the Duke of Argyll.

Aden, November 8, 1873.

(Telegraphic.)

NO signs at present of withdrawal of Turkish troops from Lahej and Howshebee country. Twenty in Abdoolla's house with officer, forty at Shuka. Abdoolla endeavouring to negotiate indirectly with Sultan has been told no communication can be held with him while Turks occupy his house. All quiet at Lahej and around Aden. Not a case of sickness among troops. Government informed.

No. 83.

Earl Granville to Sir H. Elliot.

(No. 249.) *Foreign Office, November* 13, 1873.

Sir,

I HAVE to acquaint your Excellency that I approve of the steps you have taken, in compliance with my instructions regarding the occupation of the Lahej and Howshebee territories by Turkish troops, as reported in your Excellency's despatch No. 388 of the 30th ultimo.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 84.

Mr. Merivale to Lord Tenterden. -(*Received November* 14.)

India Office, November 13, 1873.

My Lord,

I AM directed by the Duke of Argyll to state that your Lordship's letter of yesterday's date,* relating to the movements of the Turks in the neighbourhood of Aden, has been laid before him, and that he has given it, with its inclosures, full consideration. His Grace is of opinion that the position of affairs, as represented in this correspondence, is most unsatisfactory; and that, if the Government of the Sultan cannot be persuaded by efforts of diplomacy to adhere to the promises so frequently made, and to fulfil them

* Forwarding copy of No. 81.

at once, more active measures should be taken to enforce the withdrawal of the Turkish troops from the territories occupied by those chiefs, with whom we have Treaty engagements.

I am to add that the Duke of Argyll is anxious that Lord Granville should bring this to the notice of Sir Henry Elliot with the least possible delay.

I am, &c.
(Signed) HERMAN MERIVALE.

No. 85.

Earl Granville to Sir H. Elliot.

Foreign Office, November 14, 1873.

(Telegraphic.)
WHAT answer has been given to the representation you made to the Porte, reported in your No. 388 of the 30th October? Send immediate reply.

No. 86.

Sir H. Elliot to Earl Granville.—(Received November 16.)

Therapia, November 15, 1873, 6.20 P.M.

(Telegraphic.)
THE Porte promises that orders shall at once be sent for the immediate evacuation of the Howshebee country, and they engage that these orders shall be executed.

No. 87.

Sir H. Elliot to Earl Granville.—(Received November 17.)

Therapia, November 16, 1873, 5.15 P.M.

(Telegraphic.)
THE telegram to the Governor-General of Yemen has been sent.

It contains instructions to withdraw the troops immediately from Howshebee and any other part of Lahej to which they may have been sent.

No. 88.

Sir H. Elliot to Earl Granville.—(Received November 18.)

Therapia, November 7, 1873.

(No. 396.)
My Lord,

WITH reference to my despatch No. 388 of the 30th ultimo, I have the honour to inform your Lordship that when I saw Raschid Pasha on Monday I spoke very seriously to him of the line which had been adopted by the Turkish authorities in the Yemen with regard to the Arab tribes with whom Her Majesty's Government had Treaties.

Their proceedings had been so much in contradiction with the formal assurances given by himself on repeated occasions, that it would be impossible for me even to attempt to give your Lordship a satisfactory explanation of them.

The instructions with which we had been made acquainted, as those which the new Governor-General had received for his guidance, had been treated as so much waste paper. Her Majesty's Government had given a ready confidence to the assurances of the Porte; but finding it misplaced, they might now have to consider what course they may be compelled to follow with regard to the independent tribes, in whose incorporation into the Empire they are not disposed to acquiesce.

Raschid Pasha betrayed much embarrassment in answering, and seemed conscious that the complaint of Her Majesty's Government was well founded.

He asked if I had spoken to the Grand Vizier on the subject, and I said that I had just left his Highness, but that, knowing him to be pressed for time to make certain financial arrangements which brooked no delay, I had merely alluded to it, and observed that I was about to have a serious conversation with the Minister for Foreign Affairs upon the matter.

Raschid Pasha said that it was determined to send Kiamil Pasha, the Governor of

Jerusalem, to the Yemen in the character of a Commissioner, to keep the Porte informed of the political position of the province, and promised that orders to the Governor-General not to molest the tribes in question should be forwarded.

I said I was glad to receive this promise from him, although its value was considerably diminished by the fact of its having already been made, more than once, without being followed by any result.

Notwithstanding appearances, I entirely acquit Raschid Pasha of having himself acted with bad faith in this matter, and I have no doubt that the disregard of the orders of the Porte was the doing of the Minister of War, who is at this moment strong enough to act independently and in defiance of their decision.

The nomination of Kiamil Pasha is an indication that the Minister for Foreign Affairs means to keep in the Yemen an agent of his own, independent of the Seraskier, by whom he shall be kept informed of all that passes.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

No. 89.

Mr. Merivale to Lord Tenterden.—(Received November 18.)

India Office, November 18, 1873.

My Lord.

WITH reference to previous correspondence, I am directed by the Duke of Argyll to forward, for the information of Earl Granville, copy of telegram, dated 18th instant, received from the Resident at Aden, respecting the proceedings of the Turkish authorities in the neighbourhood of Aden, together with some correspondence on the same subject.

I am, &c.
(Signed) HERMAN MERIVALE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 89.

Brigadier-General Schneider to the Duke of Argyll

Aden, November 18, 1873.

(Telegraphic.)
TURKISH troops not withdrawn from Lahej and Howshebee country. Izzul Effendi Pasha with other Turkish officials arrived Lahej on 16th with letter from Governor Yemen, asking Resident to assist in making peace between Sultan and his brother Abdoolla. Pasha informed that British Government awaits withdrawal Turkish troops from Lahej and Howshebee country, agreeably to orders and assurances given by Ottoman Porte; that Sultan does not desire Turkish interference in settlement of affairs between himself and Abdoolla, and that unconditional submission of latter to Sultan is required. Pasha urges that Abdoolla is a Turkish subject, and therefore Turkish troops came to protect him against the Sultan. The absurdity of this position was pointed out to Pasha, who states he will report to Governor. Resident sees nothing but discreditable subterfuge and evasion in conduct of Turkish authorities, and trusts there is a limit to forbearance of British Government. Pasha admits orders have been received not to interfere with Lahej. Says no orders have been received as regards Howshebee and other Chiefs in Treaty relations with Government, which must be false. Government informed.

Inclosure 2 in No. 89.

Brigadier-General Schneider to the Duke of Argyll.

Aden, October 21, 1873.

My Lord Duke,

I DO myself the honour to forward a copy of my despatch of to-day's date, with accompaniment to the address of the Government of Bombay.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. W. SCHNEIDER.

Inclosure 3 in No. 89.

Brigadier-General Schneider to Mr. Gonne.

Aden, October 21, 1873.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 6th October, 1873, with its annexments, and, in continuation of my report of the 8th idem, to state there is reason to believe that during the past eighteen months some twenty or twenty-five Turks have entered Aden from the interior, but none of them were in uniform. They did not wear the fez cap, and were generally dressed as Arabs, and accompanied the Khatillas; and it was only from the statements of camel-drivers that they were supposed to be deserters. Only one Turk had a military equipment with him, and that was a bayonet, which was taken from him at the Barrier Gate, and returned when he left the Settlement.

2. It is not known that any of the Turks above-mentioned were guilty of crimes in the ordinary acceptance of the word, since no complaint was made against them by the Turkish authorities. The letter recently received from the Governor-General of Yemen, the only one on the subject, merely refers to persons from the royal soldiers who have "run away to Aden," and does not accuse them of any offence, other than simple desertion.

3. I may add that, about ten months ago one Mahomed Ahmed Effendi was allowed to enter Aden with arms. He stated he had been sent on a mission to the Sultan of Lahej by Turkish officers, and that he would not receive him. The Effendi remained in the Settlement, and sold his sword, &c. He took to petty pilfering, and, being convicted of theft, was sentenced to three months' imprisonment, and he was expelled.

4. No Turks are thought to be in Aden at present. I mean, the police have failed in discovering any such persons.

5. Copy of this letter will be sent to the Secretary of State for India.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. W. SCHNEIDER.

Inclosure 4 in No. 89.

Ahmed Ayoob Pasha to Brigadier-General Schneider.

(Translation.) *(Received October* 1, 1873).

(After compliments.)

WE inform you, that we have received a letter from the Commander of the Army of Taizz, Wahe-all-deen Pasha, in which he writes, that some persons from the royal soldiers there have run away to Aden, which was found from inquiries made. Now, it is our desire and hope that you will make investigation in this matter, and every one who will be found among the above-mentioned soldiers should be sent to the above-mentioned Commander, and to inform us of it. We write this for the sake of friendship and love.

Inclosure 5 in No. 89.

Brigadier-General Schneider to the Duke of Argyll.

Aden, October 25, 1873.

My Lord Duke,

I HAVE the honour to forward a copy of my despatch dated 22nd instant to the address of the Government of Bombay.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. W. SCHNEIDER.

Inclosure 6 in No. 89.

Brigadier-General Schneider to Mr. Gonne.

Aden, October 22, 1873.

Sir,

AFTER writing my Report of the 20th October, the Sultan of Lahej paid me a hasty visit to represent that a detachment of Turkish troops has entered his brother Abdoolla's house in his territory, and that the Commanding Officer had sent him a

message asking him to release his nephews Mohsin and Fadhil, who had been given by Abdoolla as hostages for his good conduct, and that of the other brother Abdool Kureem.

2. The Sultan explained more fully what has taken place in Lahej, and informed me that, after the skirmish in the bazaar, commenced by his brother Abdoolla's followers, he had invested his house with the intention of capturing him and other male members of the family, who persisted in acting contrary to his wishes and orders, and that it was only at the mediation of his Sheikhs and Seyds that he consented to suspend operations against them.

3. The brother Abdoolla after having given hostages, seems to have written for assistance to the Commanding Officer at Shuka, who thereupon entered Lahej and billeted twenty-five Turkish soldiers in his house, and sent a message to the Sultan that the brothers Abdoolla and Abdool Kureem and the nephews Mohsin and Fadhil had made their submission and were Turkish subjects. The Commanding Officer further said he had come for no hostile purpose; that he was well aware that Lahej was under British protection, and that the Ottoman Government had consented to leave him undisturbed; that the English and the Turks were brethren, and were not likely to come to blows in his cause. The Commanding Officer also declared that if the hostages were not given up, he would write to Taizz for orders, when more troops would be billetted in Abdoolla's house.

4. The Sultan then showed me a letter he had received from the Commanding Officer of the troops at Taizz in which he said the Ramazan was approaching; that the Turkish detachment at Shuka was inconveniently crowded, and asking permission to billet some of them at Zaida where the Sultan has a small fort and garrison. I advised the Sultan to refuse this permission, and to mention in his reply that he was aware the Ottoman Government had ordered the withdrawal of troops from the Howshebee district.

5. I also advised the Sultan to refuse to give the hostages back, and to avoid making any attack against the Turkish detachment. This last caution was unnecessary, for I saw at once he had no wish to come into collision with it, and relied on the assistance of Government to free him from his present position.

6. I addressed both the Mootasarif at Taizz and the Commanding Officer of the Turkish detachment in Abdoolla's house regarding their proceedings, which I again informed them were entirely opposed to the orders and instructions issued by the Ottoman Government.

7. The following telegram was dispatched in cypher to his Excellency the Governor in Council on the evening of the 20th October, as well as to the Secretary of State for India:—

"Some followers of Abdoolla, brother of Sultan, having made an attack on Bazaar at Lahej were beaten off by Sultan with two killed and ten wounded on both sides. Sheikhs mediated between Sultan and his brother Abdoolla, who gave his son and the son of Abdool Kureem as hostages for good conduct. A detachment of about twenty-five Turkish soldiers from Shuka has entered and occupied the fortified house of Abdoolla in Lahej territory, and Commanding Officer asks Sultan to give up hostages, as Abdoolla and the nephews have made their submission and are Turkish subjects. Sultan declines.

"I have written to Commanding Officer, requiring him to vacate Lahej territory immediately, otherwise he will be answerable for consequences. Looking to conduct of Turkish officers and disregard of orders from Ottoman Porte, I do not expect my letter will have any effect.

"Commanding Officer at Taizz meditates occupation of fort at Zaida, and has asked Sultan's permission to go there, which has been refused.

"I have recommended Sultan not to attack Turkish detachment in Abdoolla's house as it would complicate matters, and Commanding Officer declares to Sultan he has no hostile intentions.

"If detachment is not withdrawn from Lahej the time seems to have arrived to send troops there. I will dispatch an officer to Lahej to support Sultan. October 20, 1873."

8. Captain Hunter, my first assistant, returned from the African coast on the morning of the 21st, and I sent him the same day to Lahej to reassure the Sultan and to support and advise him. If the detachment was not withdrawn before his arrival, he will explain to the Commanding Officer the absolutity of the position taken up by Turkish officials, viz., that if persons residing in Lahej territory, whenever they may be, make profession of obedience to the Ottoman Government and commit crimes and mis-

demeanors in the territory, and are punished by the ruling Power, that the Ottoman Government is justified in sending its troops to rescue and protect the offenders.

9. I am writing in ignorance of the action that will be taken by Government with regard to this last and most outrageous proceeding on the part of the Turkish authorities in Yemen, and I can only hope that Her Majesty's Government will at least demand the recall of the Governor-General, and that officers may be sent to that country whose obedience to the orders of their own Government may be relied on.

10. Copy of this letter will be sent to the Secretary of State for India.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. W. SCHNEIDER.

Inclosure 7 in No. 89.

The Governor-General of India in Council to the Duke of Argyll.

Simla, October 23, 1873.

My Lord Duke,

WITH reference to our telegram of this date, in which we informed your Grace of our having authorized the Resident at Aden to send troops to protect the Sultan of Lahej, we have the honour to forward, for the information of Her Majesty's Government, copies of further communications respecting the proceedings of the Turks in the neighbourhood of Aden.

2. Your Grace will perceive that matters have assumed a very serious aspect, and require the prompt consideration of Her Majesty's Government.

We have, &c.
(Signed) NORTHBROOK.
R. TEMPLE.
B. H. ELLIS.
H. W. NORMAN.
ARTHUR HOBHOUSE.
E. C. BAYLEY.

Inclosure 8 in No. 89.

Mr. Gonne to Mr. Aitchison, October 10, 1873.

Repeats telegram from Resident at Aden of October 10.

[See Inclosure in No. 68.]

Inclosure 9 in No. 89.

Mr. Aitchison to Mr. Gonne, October 22, 1873.

Repeats telegram from Resident at Aden of October 22.

[See Inclosure 1 in No. 76.]

Inclosure 10 in No. 89.

Mr. Aitchison to Mr. Gonne.

Simla, October 23, 1873.

(Telegraphic.)

PRIVATE Secretary's telegram of yesterday:—"Viceroy authorizes Resident Aden to send troops to protect Sultan of Lahej, but not to attack Turkish troops."

Inclosure 11 in No. 89.

Mr. Aitchison to Mr. Gonne, October 22, 1873.

Repeats telegram from Resident at Aden of October 22.

[See Inclosure 2 in No. 76.]

No. 90.

Earl Granville to Sir H. Elliot.

Foreign Office, November 19, 1873.

(Telegraphic.)

RESIDENT at Aden telegraphs, November 18:—"Turkish troops not yet withdrawn from Howshebee and Lahej, Turkish officials have asked assistance of Resident to stop hostilities between Sultan and his brother. Resident replied that Turkish troops must be withdrawn and that Sultan does not desire their interference. Turks reply that Abdoolla is a Turkish subject and they have come to protect him. Resident trusts there is a limit to forbearance of British Government.

"Pasha admits orders have been received not to interfere with Lahej, but says he has received none as regards Howshebee and other chiefs."

No. 91.

Earl Granville to Sir H. Elliot.

Foreign Office, November 20, 1873.

(No. 254.)

Sir,

I HAVE received your Excellency's despatch No. 396 of the 7th instant, and I have to acquaint you that I approve the language held by you to Raschid Pasha on the Yemen question as reported therein.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 92.

Sir H. Elliot to Earl Granville.—(Received November 24.)

(No. 407. Confidential.)

Therapia, November 14, 1873.

My Lord.

SINCE the date of my despatch No. 396 of the 7th instant, I have had several serious conversations with the Grand Vizier and Raschid Pasha on the continued occupation of the Howshebee country by the Ottoman troops; and I communicated to them extracts from the telegrams of the Viceroy of India, inclosed in your Lordship's despatch No. 239,* to convince them how much in earnest Her Majesty's Government were in the matter.

At my last interview, Raschid Pasha having said that the telegram to the Governor-General should at once be sent, I asked what assurance I could give to Her Majesty's Government that these instructions would be more faithfully executed than the last, and his Excellency said that the decision had been formally taken in the Council of Ministers and could not be disregarded.

The Grand Vizier likewise said confidentially that, being dissatisfied with the proceedings of the Pasha of the Yemen, no time would be lost in sending out a civil Governor who would report upon his conduct and act as a control upon him.

The Seraskier was not yet aware of this decision and his Highness asked me not to mention it, but Kiamil Pasha, the Governor of Jerusalem, whom it is intended to send to the Yemen, has already been called here by telegraph to receive his instructions.

His Highness said that, while he is labouring night and day to reduce the expenditure of the Empire, he resents the maintenance of a large force in the Yemen, which is absolutely useless for any good purpose; and his intention is, if he is permitted, to reduce it to one fourth of its present strength.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

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* Forwarding copy of No. 76.

No. 93.

Mr. Merivale to Lord Tenterden.—(Received November 26.)

India Office, November 26, 1873.

My Lord,

WITH reference to previous correspondence, I am directed by the Duke of Argyll to forward, for the information of Earl Granville, copy of a further telegram from the Resident at Aden, dated 22nd instant, respecting the proceedings of the Turks in the neighbourhood of Aden.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HERMAN MERIVALE.

P.S.—Since the above was written a further despatch has been received from the Resident at Aden No. 65, dated 30th October, on the same subject; copy thereof is herewith annexed.

H. M.

Inclosure 1 in No. 93.

Brigadier-General Schneider to the Duke of Argyll.

Aden, November 22, 1873.

(Telegraphic.)

RESIDENT has granted interview to Agent of Governor-General of Yemen. He has been informed troops are at Lahej to support Sultan, and that Turkish interference cannot be allowed in settlement of affairs. Sultan has been told to hold no communication with Agent or Abdoolla, directly or indirectly. Government informed.

Inclosure 2 in No. 93.

Brigadier-General Schneider to the Duke of Argyll.

Aden, September 30, 1873.

My Lord Duke,

I DO myself the honour to forward a copy of my despatch, dated 28th October, 1873, to the address of the Government of Bombay.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. W. SCHNEIDER.

Inclosure 3 in No. 93.

Brigadier-General Schneider to Mr. Gonne.

Lahej, October 28, 1873.

Sir,

IN my telegram of yesterday's date I reported the departure of troops from Aden to support the Sultan of Lahej. The force* arrived this morning at 7 A.M., having made the march without encountering any difficulties. The town of Lahej is surrounded by cultivation at a radius of several miles, and my Assistant, Captain Hunter, was obliged to have the crops of several fields cut down to secure a camp. The tents are pitched to the eastward of Al-Hota, the capital of Lahej, close to water and the Government garden, from which vegetables are now procurable.

2. On my arrival I found a letter to my address from Raschid Pasha, the Mootasarif at Taizz, in reply to one I had sent to him, bringing to his notice that the entry of Turkish troops into the Lahej territory was opposed to the order of the Ottoman Porte. The answer was of the usual shuffling and evasive nature. Raschid Pasha observed that the order to enter Abdoola Mohsin's house had been given by the Military Commander at Taizz, during his absence elsewhere on duty, that he was responsible for this movement, and that my letter would be forwarded as requested to Ahmed Ayoob Pasha, the Governor-General of Yemen, in which I had requested that the Turkish detachment might be withdrawn from Lahej territory.

* 1. Royal Artillery:—2 officers, 25 gunners, with 1 6-pounder Armstrong and 2 4¾-howitzers. 2. 105th Regiment Light Infantry:—5 officers and 116 men. 3. 2nd Grenadiers:—7 officers and 133 men. 4. Sappers and Miners:—3 officers and 37 men.

3. On the 25th October Captain Hunter received a visit from Saleh Agha, the commanding officer of the detachment in Abdoola Mohsin's house, and, on being asked to explain why he was in Lahej territory, he replied he had come by order of his superior officer to keep the peace between the Sultan and his brother, and that as a soldier he was bound to obey that order. Captain Hunter then informed him that the responsibility of having acted contrary to the assurances of the Ottoman Porte would rest with those who had knowingly exceeded their instructions. Saleh Aghar, the Yazkashi, returned to Shuka after calling on Captain Hunter, leaving a sub-officer and about seventeen Turks in Abdoolla's house. The detachment is still there, and up to this date there are no signs of its leaving Lahej. The country is quite tranquil.

4. The Sultan expresses himself very gratefully to Government for the support given him by the presence of British troops in his territory, and I trust it will have a good effect in the country around Aden.

5. The troops are enjoying the change from Aden most thoroughly.

6. I visited Zaida this afternoon, the present boundary of the Sultan's territory. It is distant about thirteen miles from Al-Hota. There are splendid crops along the road of jowaree, sesame, cotton, &c., and we rode for a considerable part of the way through fields. Water abounds everywhere, which is turned off from the Wadee Sagheer and the Wadee Kabeer. These streams branch off near Zaida from the River Tobun.

At Zaida I found a small mud fort, with a garrison of some twenty Arabs. The fort is loopholed, about thirty feet high, and commands the approaches from Shuka. It is situated on a hill overlooking the bed of the Tobun, along whose banks crops are visible as far as the eye can reach. A more picturesque spot I have never seen. There was plenty of water in the river, although rain had not come down from the highlands for some time.

The water courses, or small canals, from Zaida to Lahej were deep, and in many places running with good force, and they are difficult to cross owing to the treacherous nature of the soil; it seems a white alluvial deposit, and the left bank of the Wadee Sagheer reminded me of the River Indus, the soil being of the same description.

The Sultan only requires a larger population to enable him to cultivate considerable tracts of land now lying fallow. I am informed he cannot even collect his cotton crop.

7. Copy of this letter will be forwarded to the Secretary of State for India.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. W. SCHNEIDER.

No. 94.

Raschid Pasha to Musurus Pasha.—(Communicated to Earl Granville by Musurus Pasha, November 27.)

Constantinople, le 26 Novembre, 1873.

(Télégraphique.)

L'ENVOI d'Aden d'un détachement de 500 soldats pour empêcher l'occupation de Lébadj par les troupes Impériales est une mesure qui ne saurait être attribuée qu'à un malentendu provenant de l'incident d'un Cheikh de Lébadj qui avait eu recours aux autorités Impériales, et à la disposition de qui celles-ci ont cru à tort devoir mettre, sur sa demande, une escorte de zaptiés. Il est probable que la présence de quelques militaires sur le territoire de Lébadj ait éveillé l'attention des autorités Britanniques, et revêtu à leurs yeux le caractère d'un fait concordant avec des rapports exagérés. Or, ainsi que Sir Henry Elliot en a déjà reçu l'assurance, le Gouvernement Impérial n'a ni occupé ni même eu la pensée d'occuper ce district. Cela est si vrai que la Sublime Porte, aussitôt informée des interprétations désagréables qui ont été la suite de l'incident ci-dessus, s'est empressée de prescrire par télégraphe et catégoriquement aux autorités compétentes et aux troupes Impériales d'éviter dans leur attitude tout ce qui pourrait donner même une apparence de réalité à ces interprétations.

Veuillez entretenir Lord Granville de ce qui précède, lui donner les assurances les plus formelles sur la sincérité de nos intentions, et lui démontrer l'inutilité d'une mesure qu'aucune nécessité ne commande.

No. 95.

Sir B. Frere to Earl Granville.—(Received November 27.)

(Private.) 22, *Prince's Gardens, November* 26, 1873.

My dear Lord Granville,

THE inclosed note is Mr. Badger's reply to a question I sent him regarding a notice, in an Indian paper, of very unfriendly feeling manifested towards the English at Damascus and Constantinople.

His remarks seem to me very sensible, and you may possibly think them worth while sending to Sir H. Elliot, and to our Consul-General in Egypt.

But my reason for sending them to you now is that I have asked the Duke of Argyll to consider the propriety of employing Arabic, and Persian, and Turkish translators, to keep him informed of what the Oriental press says on political questions affecting us in the East.

Remembering old Mehmet Ali's first press at Boulac in 1834, I was astounded by what I saw lately of the activity of the Arabic presses in Egypt, and the avidity with which, I was told, the people read the Arabic and Turkish newspapers, and I am convinced we ought to look after the matter more than we do.

I do not indorse all Mr. Badger's views; but I am sure there is a growing feeling of restlessness among the Muslims, and a disposition to have another fling at the Feringhi.

I am sure you will excuse my troubling you, and believe, &c.

(Signed) H. B. E. FRERE.

Inclosure in No. 95.

Memorandum by the Rev. G. P. Badger respecting Turkey and Russia in their Relations with Arabia and Central Asia.

I HAVE not seen the number of the "Friend of India" referred to, but I have not the least doubt that the several incidents mentioned by Sir Bartle Frere are linked manifestations of the revival of a real or affected religious zeal on the part of the Ottoman Muslims, having its centre at Constantinople. It is a noteworthy fact that Turkish aggression and propagandism have been pushed forward with greater vigour since 1870, when we virtually retired from the Protectorate of Turkey on the Black Sea; in consequence of which step the latter Power has drawn nearer and nearer to Russia. Prior to that date scarcely a whisper was heard about the invasion of Nejd and Yemen; and embassies from Muslim Potentates in the far East to Constantinople were few and far between. Moreover, they came and went without *éclat* of any kind; although, as far back as 1865-66, when I was at the capital, Ahmed Faris* told me that he was overwhelmed with letters from the nobles and Ulamá of those parts, asking for advice on political and religious questions touching the Khalifate. His Arabic paper, the "El Jnwaib," which has an enormous circulation throughout India and the East, has been a consistent and thorough-going advocate for the claims set up in behalf of that institution; while his extensive knowledge of Western politics and diplomatic skill, conjoined with a powerful pen, have enabled him apparently to quiet any misgivings on the part of his applicants, as to the ultimate object aimed at by the Porte. The result has been that, since 1870, important Embassies have been dispatched from Yarkund, Bokhara, Sumatra, the Muslim rebels in Western China, and other Muslim Potentates, to Constantinople, all of which have been greeted with enthusiasm, and sent away loaded with presents. Considering their position in Central Asia, it is reasonable to suppose that such intercommunications as these would have attracted the attention and evoked the jealousy of the Russians; but, as far as is apparent, the most cordial understanding exists between the two Powers—a clear proof that the policy which fosters them is not regarded as adverse to the Russian interests by the far-sighted Ignatieff. My own belief, indeed, is that, far from discountenancing these overtures, Russia secretly connives at them; persuaded that, through the presence of her armies in Central Asia, she can, at any moment, convert them into so many levers to promote her own ends. A Russian protectorate of Islam in Central Asia, under the auspices of the Ottoman Sultan at Khalifate, would be a standing menace to India.

* A very able and intellectual Syrian, formerly a Christian, now a Muslim, and bitterly anti-Christian. He edits with great vigour and ability the "El Jnwaib," an Arabic journal published at Constantinople, of which we found copies at Aden, Zanzibar, and Madagascar, and everywhere in Egypt.

A similar danger looms in the distance from the Turkish occupation of Arabia. It is not for the sake of the material value of the acquisition that the Turks are bent on making it their own; but because its possession would fortify the claims put forward on behalf of their Sovereign. The Khalifate is an Arab institution; the Prophet was an Arab; the most renowned Khalifahs were Arabs; and Arabia is the birthplace of Islam. Hitherto the recognition of Abdul Aziz as Khalifah has come mainly from princes of Tartar blood; to get the Arabs, either by force or stratagem, to acknowledge him as such would add immensely to his renown throughout the Muslim world. The success of such an attempt could not fail to exercise a powerful influence in India, and our Muslim subjects there would most probably be induced thereby to manifest towards the British Government an antagonism similar in kind, but far more intense, resembling that of the political Ultramontanes towards the Powers that be in Europe.

We do not hear that Russia has taken any overt part in the aggressive policy of the Turks in Yemen; nevertheless, I am persuaded, on the grounds above stated, that she regards it as favouring her ulterior object, which is to get such a hold of Moslem sympathies in India, under cover of the Ottoman Khalifate, as would stand her in good stead in the event of any interference on our part with her designs in Central Asia. The line of Turkish steamers now established between Constantinople and the Persian Gulf, *viâ* the Suez Canal, is to be supplemented shortly by a Russian line. The two will work in concert, and serve to impress upon the Arabs that the Ottoman Sultan is the ally of the great Sultan of the Oros (Russians).

Such being my views of the ulterior aims of the two Powers, although in reality one is little better than a cat's paw to the other, I would discourage, by every possible means, the extension of Turkish authority in Arabia, by supporting the independent Chiefs, not merely those who have already Treaty relations with us, but any others who may solicit our protectorate. Moreover, I would fix a limit to the aggressions of the Turks in Arabia generally, and exact adequate guarantees against any attempt on their part to encroach beyond that limit; and, as regards the sea-board, I would inhibit any hostile proceedings on their part, south of the Straits of Bab-el-Mandeb. Unless some such securities as these are exacted from the Turks, and, unless we see to it, that the stipulations are faithfully observed, we shall soon have another Lahej difficulty on our hands, when, perchance, it will be less easy to remove it.

One suggestion more. Nothing has surprised me so much as the deplorable ignorance of Arabia and Arabian politics, shown by the public journals—generally so well informed—in their recent articles about Lahej. The ignorance, I fear, is shared by the Government; hence, it is not to be wondered at that no satisfactory steps are taken to insure our position and interests in that question. The foreign papers, published at Constantinople, have evidently received a hint not to discuss such matters; but the Arabic journals, especially the "El Jnwaib," are full of information regarding the progress of Islam, and Eastern politics generally, which would be invaluable to the Government. Yet, have we a single diplomatist, either at home or abroad, who ever reads those papers? It may be said that this happy-go-lucky system has served us thus far; but is it to be depended upon, in a matter of so much importance as the tranquillity of India? *Dubito.*

(Signed) GEORGE PERCY BADGER.

November 21, 1873.

No. 96.

Earl Granville to Sir H. Elliot.

(No. 265.) *Foreign Office, November* 27, 1873.

Sir,

THE Turkish Ambassador at this Court handed to me to-day the communication of which I inclose a copy,* and asked me whether, now that the affair of the occupation of the Lahej or Howshebee countries by Turkish troops is settled, the British force dispatched from Aden would retire.

I reminded Musurus Pasha that, for one reason or another, the previous promises of the Porte had not been fulfilled; that after the matter was completely settled, I did not imagine that there would be any object for English troops to remain, but that I would communicate with the Duke of Argyll on the subject.

I am, &c.

(Signed) GRANVILLE.

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* No. 94.

No. 97.

Sir H. Elliot to Earl Granville.—(Received November 28.)

(No. 416.) *Therapia, November 15, 1873.*

My Lord,

IN reply to your Lordship's telegram of the 14th instant, I had the honour to inform you yesterday that the Porte had promised that orders should at once be sent to the Governor-General of the Yemen for the immediate evacuation of the Howshebee country, and that they had engaged that those instructions should be executed.

I am now enabled to transmit to your Lordship a translation of the telegram that has been dispatched to the Governor-General, desiring him to withdraw his troops from the Howshebee, and any other part of Lahej to which they may have been sent.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

Inclosure in No. 97.

The Grand Vizier to the Governor-General of Yemen.

(Translation.) *November 3/15, 1873.*

(Telegraphic.)

I HAVE understood from your last communication that, on account of Lahej having no concern with the district Howshebee, and also owing to the request of some of the Sheikhs of the country, a military and police (Zaptiehs) force had been dispatched by you to that locality.

In my opinion, you have acted under a misapprehension in sending troops there; you are consequently instructed to withdraw immediately those troops and Zaptiehs, as well as any others which may have been sent to any other part of Lahej, and to report to me the fact of your having acted according to this instruction.

No. 98.

Sir J. Kaye to Lord Tenterden.—(Received November 28.)

(Confidential.) *India Office, November 28, 1873.*

My Lord.

WITH reference to my letter of the 13th instant, respecting the proceedings of the Turks in Yemen, I am directed by the Duke of Argyll to request that you will invite the especial attention of Earl Granville to the fact that, in that letter, the Secretary of State for India urged the importance of a withdrawal of Turkish troops, and of all Turkish interference, not only from Lahej, but also from the territories of the other Arab Chiefs in the neighbourhood of Aden with whom we have agreements. Lord Granville will not fail to have observed that this has also been the language of the Government of India, and that an enumeration of the tribes in question is contained in their despatch of August 11, 1873.* I have further to direct your attention to the letter of Sir Bartle Frere to his Lordship, dated 18th of January, 1873, in which the Special Envoy to Zanzibar and Muscat points out, with great clearness and force, the evils which would result from the occupation of the Arab seaboard by the Turks, not only as respects the territories of the Sultan of Lahej, but the country also held by the neighbouring Chiefs or tribes hitherto under British protection. The representations of Sir Bartle Frere on this matter appear to the Duke of Argyll to receive a very strong confirmation from the transactions of which we are now complaining, because these transactions show that we cannot trust to the orders of a distant Government being obeyed, and that our relations with the surrounding tribes must be immediate and direct, if we desire them to be secure.

I am desired further to point out that Sir Bartle Frere has indicated a geographical line, marked by prominent physical features, as the boundary which should be drawn, within which we could not admit any right of interference on the part of the Turks. That boundary roughly defines the seaboard territories upon which Aden depends for its supplies, and the territories of the tribes which have been specified by the Government of India.

I am to add that the Duke of Argyll requests that the attention of Lord Granville

* Inclosure in No. 70.

may also be called to the passages in Sir Bartle Frere's letter relating to the effect of Turkish occupation of the Arabian coast upon the great object of his mission—the suppression of the slave trade—which he emphatically states that it would thwart, "by affording the protection of the Ottoman flag to maritime tribes engaged in the slave traffic."

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. WM. KAYE.

No. 99.

Earl Granville to Sir H. Elliot.

(Telegraphic.) *Foreign Office, November 29, 1873.*

THE telegram inclosed in your No. 416 of the 16th, is obscure, and does not agree with your own telegram of the same day.

Have orders been given as promised in your despatch No. 180 of June 6, to evacuate both the districts of Howshebee and Lahej, and of the other tribes mentioned by Indian Government.

No. 100.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Lord Tenterden.

Admiralty, November 29, 1873.

My Lord,

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to acquaint you, for the information of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, that the following telegram has been received from Rear-Admiral Cumming at Trincomalee, dated 27th instant:—

"Lahej quiet; services of ship offered Resident; not required."

I am, &c.

(Signed) ROBERT HALL.

No. 101.

Sir H. Elliot to Earl Granville.—(Received December 1.)

(No. 421.) *Therapia, November 21, 1873.*

My Lord,

I COMMUNICATED yesterday to Raschid Pasha the substance of your Lordship's telegram of the 19th, in reference to the continued occupation of the Howshebee country by the Ottoman troops; and his Excellency replied, that he hoped that we might consider the incident as completely terminated by the instructions that had been sent, and which will insure the evacuation of the territory in question, as Howshebee was specifically mentioned in them.

I said that, to avoid future misunderstanding, I should wish to be distinctly informed whether the present instructions were to be understood as applying to the country of the whole of the tribes having Treaties with us, of which I had furnished him with the list, and which the Porte had promised not to molest.

Raschid Pasha replied that such was the meaning of his instructions.

I trust, therefore, that no further difficulties may now arise; for, while I entertain no doubt of the sincerity of the assurances of the Grand Vizier and the Minister for Foreign Affairs, they will, I believe, now have sufficient authority to insure their being observed.

I do not attempt to conceal from the Turkish Ministers the impression that must have been produced upon Her Majesty's Government by their late proceedings.

Many months ago a formal engagement had been taken by the Porte, and accepted in good faith by Her Majesty's Government, who, having protested when they found that it was not fulfilled, cannot but have expected that the Sultan's Government would at once and without hesitation redeem their promise, and express regret at the delay which had occurred.

Instead of this, unless I am entirely misinformed, the question of the expediency of maintaining or withdrawing the troops seems again to have been discussed, as though it were a matter upon which the Porte was still free to decide; and, although Her Majesty's Government will learn with pleasure that the troops are to be withdrawn, the decision will

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

not inspire them with the same confidence in any future assurances that they may receive from the Porte, as would have been the case if it had been come to on the simple ground of being done in redemption of a former engagement.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

No. 102.

Sir H. Elliot to Earl Granville.—(Received December 1.)

(Telegraphic.) *Therapia, November 30, 1873, 11·40 P.M.*

THE divergence between the terms of the telegram inclosed in my Report of the 16th, and the promises of the Porte to evacuate the territory of all the Arab tribes near Aden with which we have Treaties, had already been brought by me before Raschid Pasha, and my Report to your Lordship on the subject was sent on the 22nd.

His Excellency said that the instructions are to be understood as applying to all the tribes in question.

No. 103.

Sir H. Elliot to Earl Granville.—(Received December 2.)

(Telegraphic.) *Therapia, December 2, 1873, 1 P.M.*

RASCHID PASHA says that, in the telegram to the Governor-General of Yemen, the districts of Howshebee and Lahej were specially mentioned as being those against the occupation of which complaints had been made by Her Majesty's Government.

He has promised, however, to telegraph that the late instruction applies to all the tribes previously mentioned as having Treaties with Great Britain.

He hopes that the troops which have been sent from Aden to Howshebee will consequently be withdrawn.

No. 104.

Lord Tenterden to Mr. Merivale.

Foreign Office, December 2, 1873.

Sir,

WITH reference to your letter of the 28th ultimo, urging the importance of the withdrawal of the Turkish troops from all the Arab territories in Yemen, I am directed by Earl Granville to call the attention of the Duke of Argyll to Sir H. Elliot's despatch No. 180 of the 6th of June, copy of which was inclosed in Mr. Hammond's letter to you of the 21st of June, in which his Excellency reported having received an assurance from the Porte that the tribes enumerated in your letter of the 12th of May should not be in any way interfered with, and to the telegram from his Excellency of the 16th ultimo, communicated to you in my letter of the 19th.

As this telegram did not entirely agree with the telegram from the Porte to the Governor of Yemen, transmitted in a despatch from Sir H. Elliot, of which copy is inclosed, Lord Granville caused a telegram to be addressed to his Excellency on the 29th,* of which a copy is also inclosed, with the view of preventing any misunderstanding.

A further despatch was received yesterday,† of which I transmit a copy, from which the Duke of Argyll will see that the instructions of the Porte extend not merely to the district of Lahej, but to all the nine tribes with which Her Majesty's Government have Treaty relations.

I am, &c.
(Signed) TENTERDEN.

P.S.—I inclose a copy of a further telegram from Sir H. Elliot on the same subject, which has been received to-day.‡

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* No. 99. † No. 102. ‡ No. 103.

No. 105.

Mr. Merivale to Lord Tenterden.—(Received December 2.)

India Office, December 2, 1873.

My Lord,

I AM directed by the Duke of Argyll to forward, for the information of Earl Granville, copy of a further telegram from the Resident at Aden, reporting that the Turkish troops have not as yet withdrawn from Lahej or other places in the neighbourhood of Aden; and I am to request that, in laying this paper before his Lordship, you will move him to state what further diplomatic steps he proposes to take with the view of insisting on the fulfilment of its promises by the Government of Turkey.

And I am further to state that, in the opinion of the Secretary of State for India, the time seems to have almost come when the Turkish forces should be summoned to retire, and when, on refusal, that retirement should be enforced by the troops under the command of the Resident.

I am, &c.
(Signed) HERMAN MERIVALE.

Inclosure in No. 105.

Brigadier-General Schneider to the Duke of Argyll.

Aden, December 2, 1873.

(Telegraphic.)

TURKS not withdrawn from Lahej or Shuka. The Howshebee, supported by presence Turkish Agent and troop at latter place, is cultivating land two miles south of Zaida. Resident reports Governor-General Yemen had declared Howshebee district annexed to Taizz. Turks are therefore responsible for encroachment on territory ceded to Lahej by Howshebee in 1868. Situation of affairs damaging to our prestige, owing to presence of Turkish troops. If Governor-General persists in disregarding orders of Ottoman Porte, there is only one solution of difficulty, namely, resort to force. Some Turkish regiments at Taizz with light artillery carried by camels. Rumoured troops will come towards Lahej. Reinforcement should be held in readiness. Viceroy informed.

No. 106.

Earl Granville to Sir H. Elliot.

Foreign Office, December 2, 1873.

(Telegraphic.)

THE following telegram received from the Resident at Aden, dated December 2:—

"Turks not withdrawn from Lahej or Shuka. The Howshebee, supported by presence of Turkish Agent and troops at latter place, is cultivating land two miles south of Zaida. Governor of Yemen has declared Howshebee district annexed to Taizz. Turks are therefore responsible for encroachment on territory ceded to Lahej by Howshebee in 1868. Situation of affairs damaging to our prestige on account of presence of Turkish troops. If Governor-General persist in disregarding orders of Porte there is only one solution of difficulty, namely, resort to force. Some Turkish regiments at Taizz with light artillery carried by camels. It is rumoured that troops will come towards Lahej. Reinforcements should be held in readiness. Viceroy of India informed."

No. 107.

Earl Granville to Sir H. Elliot.

Foreign Office, December 3, 1873.

(Telegraphic.)

HOW long will it take for the instructions to reach the Governor of Yemen?

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

No. 108.

Earl Granville to Sir H. Elliot.

(No. 269.) *Foreign Office, December 4, 1873.*

Sir,

MUSURUS PASHA called upon me to-day, and requested to be informed whether Her Majesty's Government had any reply to give to the suggestions he had made on the 27th ultimo, in conformity with Rasehid Pasha's telegraphic instructions, that the British force might be withdrawn from the territories of the Sultan of Lahej.

I replied that it appeared, by a telegraphic despatch received on the 2nd instant from the Resident at Aden, that the Turkish forces had not yet withdrawn, either from Lahej, or from Shuka in the Howshebee district, and that the land two miles south of Zaida was being cultivated by the Howshebee tribe, who were supported by the presence of the Turkish Agent and of Turkish troops.

I said that I thought that this report of the continued presence of the Turkish forces was a sufficient answer to his inquiry. I could only ascribe their not having withdrawn to some unexpected delay which must have occurred in the transmission of the instructions which had been sent from Constantinople.

I requested him again to represent to his Government how serious was our reason for complaint, that the assurances repeated during the course of the year by the Sublime Porte had been so completely unfulfilled.

I am, &c.

(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 109.

Mr. Merivale to Lord Tenterden.—(Received December 5.)

India Office, December 4, 1873.

My Lord,

WITH reference to your letters of 27th ultimo and 3rd instant,* respecting the wish expressed by the Porte that the British force dispatched from Aden may be withdrawn, I am directed by the Duke of Argyll to state that, as pointed out by Earl Granville, the assurances of the Ottoman Government relative to Turkish movements in Yemen have been so frequently violated, that his Grace cannot undertake to issue any instructions which would tend to embarrass the Political Resident at Aden or the Government of India in the exercise of their discretion as to the best means of maintaining the influence of the British Government with the chiefs in the neighbourhood of Aden.

I am, &c.

(Signed) HERMAN MERIVALE.

No. 110.

Sir H. Elliot to Earl Granville.—(Received December 5.)

Therapia, December 5, 1873.

(Telegraphic.)

TELEGRAMS from the Governor-General of Yemen take about a week in coming. Those addressed to him probably take longer, having to go by messengers found at Aden.

The instructions to the Governor-General go to Sana, from whence he would have to forward his orders to the officers commanding the troops of occupation.

The Porte appears convinced that their late instructions will be at once executed, and they know that it is only thus that a conflict can be avoided.

No. 111.

Sir H. Elliot to Earl Granville.—(Received December 5.)

(Telegraphic.) *Therapia, December 5, 1873, 2:40 P.M.*

(Confidential.)

THE Russian Ambassador has been representing to the Grand Vizier that Her Majesty's Government having no right to interfere with the Arab tribes, the Porte was acting injudiciously in listening to their remonstrances.

* Inclosing copies of Nos. 94, 96, and 103.

The Grand Vizier replied that the Porte had no authority over the tribes in alliance with the British Government, and having ascertained the blunder committed by the Governor-General of the Yemen in sending troops to occupy Howshebee and Lahej, had considered it their duty to direct him forthwith to evacuate those territories.

No. 112.

Sir H. Elliot to Earl Granville.—(Received December 8.)

Constantinople, December 8, 1873.

(Telegraphic.)

I SHOULD be glad to be informed as soon as Her Majesty's Government hear of the withdrawal of the Turkish troops from Lahej.

No. 113.

Mr. Merivale to Lord Tenterden.—(Received December 9.)

India Office, December 9, 1873.

My Lord,

WITH reference to previous correspondence, I am directed by the Duke of Argyll to forward, for the information of Earl Granville, copy of papers, from which it appears that the Turks have withdrawn their troops from the districts in the neighbourhood of Aden.

I am, &c.

(Signed) HERMAN MERIVALE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 113.

Brigadier-General Schneider to the Duke of Argyll.

Aden, December 6, 1873, 5·35 P.M.

(Telegraphic.)

TURKISH troops have evacuated Lahej and Shuka. The country is cleared of Turks between Lahej and Taizz. Reinforcement not required to be held in readiness.

Copy to Viceroy and Governor of Bombay.

Inclosure 2 in No. 113.

Brigadier-General Schneider to the Duke of Argyll.

Aden, December 7, 1873, 8·30 A.M.

(Telegraphic.)

THE two brothers of Sultan of Lahej and his nephew, who have been in rebellion against him for some months past, surrendered unconditionally this morning to the Resident, and have been conveyed as State prisoners to Aden, pending the pleasure of Government. Their forts are occupied by British troops, and will be destroyed. The pacification of Lahej is complete. In anticipation of sanction of Government, the Resident will deal with the Howshebee Sultan at an early date.

Inclosure 3 in No. 113.

The Viceroy of India to the Duke of Argyll.

Lucknow, December 5, 1873.

(Telegraphic.)

ADEN telegram to you dated 2nd. Further orders as to course necessary in consequence of persistent neglect by Turkish officers in Yemen of the orders which we have repeatedly been assured have been given by Ottoman Porte, must emanate from Her Majesty's Government, and not from India. I think it my duty, however, to suggest, for serious consideration, expediency of fixing time, after expiration of which, should Turkish officers still refuse to obey the orders of their own Government, force should be used to make them retire from these territories, and of authorizing the Government of India to make such additional Treaty with the Chiefs as will give us the right to protect them without delay in future case of attack when we may consider it necessary. A continuance of the present state of affairs may seriously weaken our position at Aden.

Inclosure 4 in No. 113.

Brigadier-General Schneider to the Duke of Argyll.

Aden, November 12, 1873.

(Secret.)

My Lord Duke,

I DO myself the honour to forward a copy of my despatch of yesterday's date to the address of the Government of Bombay.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. W. SCHNEIDER.

Inclosure 5 in No. 113.

Brigadier-General Schneider to Mr. Gonne.

Aden, November 11, 1873.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to inform Government that I went to Lahej on the 7th November to ascertain the position of affairs, and returned to Aden on the 10th idem.

2. My assistant, Captain Hunter, had been visited by the Moolazim, or Sub-Lieutenant, who commands the detachment of Turkish troops in Abdoolla Mohsin's house, and he said he had twenty men there, and that forty men were at Shuka. I reported this by telegram on the 7th November. The Moolazim observed he was heartily tired of his position, but that he had received no orders to withdraw from Lahej.

3. Both the Moolazim and Abdoolla Mohsin have endeavoured to come to terms with the Sultan, by opening a communication with Fadhil-bin-Ali, a nephew, who resides with the Sultan. The former was told, in reply, that the Sultan did not desire his interference in the settlement of his affairs with his brother, who is his subject, and not that of the Ottoman Government; and the latter that, although the Sultan wished for peace, it could not be brought about while Turkish troops were in his house.

4. The Turks do not venture beyond the immediate neighbourhood of Abdoolla Mohsin's house.

5. I rode round the house on the morning after my arrival. It is situated at the extreme westerly end of the town, and is surrounded by a loop-holed wall about 15 feet high.

6. The house itself is a fortified building of sun-burnt bricks, about 60 feet high, with towers at each corner. It is loop-holed in all directions, and, so far as I am able to judge, it could be easily reduced and made untenable with 8-inch howitzer shells. Looking to the ramifications of the Sultan's palace, the numerous stair-cases, doors, and passages that exist in these buildings, I should not feel disposed to effect an entrance by blowing open a gateway, should it presently be necessary to bring Abdoolla Mohsin to submission.

7. It is said there are very few troops at Taizz, and that no posts exist between that place and Shuka. The Mootasarif is, or was recently, engaged in coercing the Beni-Amadh, a tribe living a few miles north of that place, who had risen against and attacked the Turks. Sixty of the latter are reported to have been killed and wounded.

8. The troops of the field-force continue quite well, and the Commissariat arrangements are all that can be desired.

9. I have not permitted spirituous liquors to be taken to the camp for sale to native troops and followers, and I am disposed to think the absence of sickness in the force may partly be attributed to this precaution, as it prevents European soldiers from obtaining more than the authorized rations. The population being Mahomedans, no spirit shops are to be found at Lahej.

10. Copy of this letter will be forwarded to the Secretary of State for India.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. W. SCHNEIDER.

No. 114.

Earl Granville to Sir H. Elliot.

Foreign Office, December 9, 1873, 4·45 P.M.

(Telegraphic.)

FOLLOWING telegram received from Resident at Aden, dated December 8:—

"Turkish troops have evacuated Lahej and Shuka. The country is cleared of Turks between Lahej and Taizz. Reinforcement not required to be held in readiness."

No. 115.

Earl Granville to Sir H. Elliot.

Foreign Office, December 9, 1873, 5 P.M.

(Telegraphic.)

THE two brothers of Sultan of Lahej and his nephew, who have been in rebellion against him for some months past, surrendered unconditionally this morning to the Resident, and have been conveyed as State prisoners to Aden, pending the pleasure of Government. Their forts are occupied by British troops, and will be destroyed. The pacification is complete. In anticipation of sanction of Government, the Resident will deal with the Howshebee Sultan at an early date.

No. 116.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Lord Tenterden.—(Received December 10.)

Admiralty, December 8, 1873.

My Lord,

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to transmit herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, extracts from a general letter of Rear-Admiral Cumming, dated the 8th November, reporting that the "Wolverene" had been ordered to Aden in consequence of some Turkish troops having marched to Lahej.

2. The Rear-Admiral also reports the proceedings of various ships under his orders, and mentions that an attempt had been made by 2,000 slaves who had revolted, from their masters at Pungani, to march inland to form a free Colony, but that a considerable number had been captured by the Governor of Lamoo.

I am, &c.

(Signed) ROBERT HALL.

Inclosure in No. 116.

Extract of a letter of Rear-Admiral Cumming, of Her Majesty's ship "Glasgow," at Trincomalee, dated November 8, 1873.

IN consequence of some Turkish troops having marched to Lahej, I dispatched "Wolverene" forthwith to Aden to co-operate with Brigadier-General Schneider, Her Majesty's Political Resident, to whom I had previously telegraphed, offering the services of a ship. "Wolverene" will remain on that division of the station for the present.

3. "Shearwater." By last accounts, dated 22nd September, was at Bagamoyo, and had made considerable progress in her surveying duties. Commissioner Wharton reports that about 2,000 slaves had revolted from their masters at Pungani, and marched inland to form a free Colony, and that the Governor of Lamoo had captured 217 slaves marching northward in contravention of the existing Treaty. Such an unprecedented act on the part of an Arab Chief will, doubtless, have a very good effect in checking future attempts at running slaves.

4. "Nimble." By last accounts, dated 16th September, was at Aden, but intended leaving the following day for Makulla and Socotra. During her passage up the coast "Nimble" captured three small dhows.

6. "Rifleman." By last accounts, dated 29th August, was at Gwadur recruiting the health of the crew, which had been suffering from a mild type of remittent fever, but I trust they are long ere this convalescent. Their Lordships will, doubtless, feel gratified on learning that the services of the "Rifleman," during the late hostilities between two native Chiefs, have been highly appreciated.

"Columbine." By last accounts, dated 30th September, was at Kurrachee, to which port she had conveyed Abd-el-Aziz, he having (at the request of the Indian Government) been seized by "Rifleman." "Columbine" was to leave for Muscat in the first week of October, and I have sent orders for her to remain there and await arrival of "Philomel."

No. 117.

Lord Tenterden to Mr. Merivale.

Foreign Office, December 11, 1873.

Sir,

I AM directed by Earl Granville to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 9th instant, forwarding copies of telegraphic reports from the Resident at Aden, from which it appears that the Turkish troops have now been withdrawn from the Lahej and Howshebee country, and that the rebellious relatives of the Sultan of Lahej have surrendered themselves to the British authorities.

I am, in reply, to request that you will call the Duke of Argyll's attention to the conversation which took place between Lord Granville and the Turkish Ambassador on the 4th instant, and of which a Report was forwarded in my letter of the same day, and I am to inquire what answer should now, in his Grace's opinion, be returned to the request of the Turkish Government, that the British force which has been dispatched to Lahej from Aden should also be withdrawn.

I am, &c.
(Signed) TENTERDEN.

No. 118.

Sir H. Elliot to Earl Granville.—(Received December 12.)

(No. 429.) *Therapia, November 29, 1873.*

My Lord,

RASCHID PASHA has asked for my opinion upon a suggestion which he says he has received from Musurus Pasha for avoiding future misunderstanding about the Lahej and Howshebee country.

The proposal is that, as the tribes recognize the Sultan as their Khaliph, the Porte should issue a Firman granting them an autonomy, and assimilating them to Egypt and Tunis.

I said that as the suggestion came from Musurus Pasha, the simplest course would perhaps be that his Excellency should be instructed to explain it to your Lordship, and ascertain whether it would be regarded as satisfactory; but that for my own part, I doubted whether Her Majesty's Government might not consider that such a Firman implied a right of sovereignty on the part of the Porte, which they will not be disposed to admit.

The safest and simplest course was to leave the tribes unmolested and in the same position as they had been in for the last two centuries.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

No. 119.

Sir Henry Elliot to Earl Granville.—(Received December 12.)

(No. 431.) *Therapia, November 30, 1873.*

My Lord,

THE divergence upon which your Lordship remarks in your telegram of the 29th instant between the terms of telegraphic instructions to the Governor-General of the Yemen, and the previous promises of the Porte to abstain from aggression against all the Arab tribes near Aden which have treaties with Great Britain, had not escaped my attention.

My despatch No. 421, which having been forwarded by post on the 22nd must be on the point of reaching your Lordship's hands, contains a report of the conversation I had had on the subject with Raschid Pasha who assured me that the late instructions are to be understood as applying to the country of all the tribes in question.

(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.
I have, &c.

No. 120.

Sir H. Elliot to Earl Granville.—(Received December 12.)

(No. 433.) *Therapia, December 2, 1873.*

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to inclose the copy of a note that I have addressed to Raschid Pasha requesting him, with a view to prevent future misunderstanding, to send further instructions to the Governor-General of the Yemen, stating distinctly that the orders to evacuate the districts of Lahej and Howshebee, apply equally to the territories of the other Arab tribes which have treaties with Her Majesty's Government.

I saw his Excellency yesterday before he had received the note, and having communicated the substance of your Lordship's telegram of the 29th ultimo, I obtained from him the promise that instructions, such as I asked for, should at once be sent by telegraph to the Governor-General.

He explained the mention of Lahej and Howshebee by name by saying that he was not aware of there being districts belonging to the other tribes that were occupied by the Ottoman troops.

The Porte, he repeated, had every intention of adhering faithfully to the resolution it had announced in reference to the tribes in question, and he hoped Her Majesty's Government would therefore also withdraw the troops which had been sent from Aden.

I said I had no information respecting these troops; but I had already warned his Excellency not to be surprised if in consequence of the non-execution by the Ottoman Commanders of the promises that had been made by the Porte, Her Majesty's Government should think it necessary to adopt measures for the protection of the threatened districts.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

Inclosure in No. 120.

Sir H. Elliot to Raschid Pasha.

Therapia, November 30, 1873.

Sir,

HAVING duly forwarded to Her Majesty's Government a copy of the telegraphic instructions which your Excellency had the goodness to communicate to me, by which the Governor-General of the Yemen was directed to withdraw the troops from the Howshebee territory, I have received a telegram from Earl Granville, pointing out that the wording of those orders do not make it clear that they apply to the country of the whole of those chiefs having Treaties with Great Britain whom the Sublime Porte, in July last, engaged not to molest.

Although your Excellency, when I pointed out the indistinctness of the telegram, assured me that the orders were to be understood as applying to the country of all the chiefs in question, it is so necessary to prevent the recurrence of any further misunderstanding, that your Excellency will, I hope, see the propriety of despatching such additional instructions to the Governor-General as shall leave him without the possibility of doubt on the subject.

I would beg your Excellency to believe that I make this request, not as implying the slightest doubt of the intentions and meaning of the Sublime Porte, as conveyed to me by your Excellency, but solely with the view of guarding against the occurrence of the misunderstanding which occurred when the former instructions were sent.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

No. 121.

Raschid Pasha to Musurus Pasha.—(Communicated by Musurus Pasha, December 12.)

Constantinople, Décembre 11, 1873.

(Télégraphique.)

LE Gouverneur-Général du Yémen informe la Sublime Porte, par un télégramme en date du 26 Novembre, de l'envoi aux autorités locales d'ordres catégoriques pour l'évacuation par les troupes Impériales du territoire de Havachib.

No. 122.

Lord Tenterden to Mr. Merivale.

Foreign Office, December 17, 1873.

Sir,

I AM directed by Earl Granville to transmit to you a copy of a despatch from Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople,* respecting a proposal said to have been made by Musurus Pasha to the Porte that the Sultan, as Khaliph, should grant an autonomy to the Lahej and Howshebee countries; and I am to request that you will state to the Duke of Argyll that his Lordship would be glad to have his opinion with respect to this question.

I am, &c.

(Signed) TENTERDEN.

No. 123.

Earl Granville to Sir H. Elliot.

(No. 278.) *Foreign Office, December* 17, 1873.

Sir,

I HAVE received your Excellency's despatch No. 433 of the 2nd instant, and I have to express to you my approval of the note which you addressed to Raschid Pasha respecting the withdrawal of Turkish troops from Lahej and Howshebee, copy of which was inclosed in your despatch.

I am, &c.

(Signed) GRANVILLE.

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* No. 118.

No. 124.

Lord Tenterden to Mr. Merivale.

Foreign Office, December 18, 1873.

Sir,

THE Turkish Ambassador having informed Earl Granville that a report had reached his Government that the brother of the Sultan of Lahej had been attacked and taken prisoner by the English troops, I am directed by his Lordship to request that you will move the Duke of Argyll to cause him to be informed whether this report is correct, and whether any further intelligence has been received at the India Office on the subject.

I am, &c.

(Signed) TENTERDEN.

No. 125.

Earl Granville to Musurus Pasha.

Walmer Castle, Deal, December 21, 1873.

My dear Ambassador,

AT my request the India Office has telegraphed the Resident at Aden for explanations as to the circumstances of the case of the brother of the Sultan of Lahej.

I will write to you as soon as I have further information on the matter.

Yours, &c.

(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 126.

Sir H. Elliot to Earl Granville.—(Received December 22.)

(No. 437.) *Therapia, December* 5, 1873.

My Lord,

UPON receiving your Lordship's telegram of the 2nd instant, I endeavoured to ascertain how long a telegram from hence to the Governor-General of the Yemen would probably be in transmission, but nothing at all precise was known at the Porte.

I found, however, that they take about a week in coming, while those from Constantinople are likely to take longer, having to be sent by messenger from Aden, who would probably not be so expeditious as those sent by the Governor-General.

According to a recent letter from the "Times" correspondent at Aden, telegrams to the Governor-General are forwarded by boat to Hodeida and then by messenger to Sana, from whence he has to transmit his orders to the Commanders of the troops of occupation.

The Porte appears convinced that the late orders will at once be executed, and they perceive that it is only thus that a conflict can be avoided.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

No. 127.

Sir H. Elliot to Earl Granville.—(Received December 22.)

(No. 439. Confidential.) *Therapia, December* 5, 1873.

My Lord,

MR. PISANI reports to me that the Grand Vizier had informed him, in strict confidence, that the Russian Ambassador had called upon him the other day, and, in course of conversation, introduced the subject of the Arab tribes in the vicinity of Aden.

He said that, as a true friend, having the interests of the Sultan's Government at heart, he could not avoid observing that, as Her Majesty's Government had no right to interfere with those tribes, the Porte had acted very injudiciously in listening to their representations on the subject.

The Grand Vizier said that he replied to General Ignatieff that the Porte had no authority whatever over those tribes, which were in alliance with the British Government; and that, having satisfied themselves that the Governor-General of the Yemen had com-

mitted a gross blunder in sending troops to occupy Howshebee and Lahej, they deemed it right to direct him forthwith to evacuate those territories.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

No. 128.

Sir H. Elliot to Earl Granville.—(*Received December 22.*)

(No. 444.) *Therapia, December 7*, 1873.

My Lord,

HAVING met the Grand Vizier yesterday at the Persian Legation, I again took the opportunity of speaking to him of the serious aspect which had been given to the question of the Arab tribes by the neglect of the Porte to fulfil the engagements taken to Her Majesty's Government in reference to them several months ago, and to the difficulty in avoiding a conflict if the Governor-General of the Yemen were now to hesitate in carrying out the last orders.

He said he felt no uneasiness on the subject, as he was convinced that by the present movement the Turkish troops must be withdrawn.

He repeated that the Porte knew that a great blunder had been committed, and would take care that it should not be renewed.

Upon my alluding to the conversation that he had had on the subject with the Russian Ambassador, he intimated that he perfectly well knew who the real friends of Turkey were and who were not.

The Minister of War being of the party, I likewise spoke to him, letting him perceive that I was aware of his having been the cause of the whole misunderstanding.

He defended himself feebly, saying that a great deal too much had been made of the presence of a very small detachment at a post to which their presence had been invited.

I answered that the only consequence of the unjustifiable occupation would be found to be that British troops had been sent to protect the threatened tribes, and that the Turkish must be withdrawn.

It was an exhibition which we must all regret, but for which those who had disturbed the original state of things were responsible.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

No. 129.

Sir H. Elliot to Earl Granville.—(*Received December 22.*)

(No. 453.) *Therapia, December 10*, 1873.

My Lord,

THE Turkish newspaper "Hakaik" has been suspended by the Porte for the publication of the article, of which a translation is inclosed, commenting with severity on the proceedings of Her Majesty's Government in reference to the tribes of Southern Arabia.

The measure was adopted before my attention was drawn to the article.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

Inclosure in No. 129.

Extract from the "Hakaik" of the 5th December, 1873.

(Translation.)

THE most important telegraphic news which arrived last week is that describing a conflict between the Ottoman troops and the Arabs in the neighbourhood of Lahej. The killed and wounded in this engagement amounted to 300 on the side of the Arabs and to 70 on the Turkish side. The origin and cause of this conflict has not been explained.

It is being said that the Turkish troops in alliance with the brother of the Ameer of Lahej intended to effect the conquest of that territory whilst the Ameer himself was acting in opposition and rebellion—that finally the Governor of Aden sent 500 English soldiers to the assistance of the Ameer of Lahej, upon which the Turkish troops had retired.

In our opinion the Governor of Aden committed an error. It was his duty in the first instance to have sought information from the Turkish Commander, and, on understanding the cause of the latter's arrival, to have explained to him the fact of the Ameer of Lahej being in alliance with the English Government, and he should perhaps then have left the matter for reference to the Sublime Porte. For, besides the fact that the expedition of English troops was of itself not free from wrong, if the Commander of the Turkish forces had not been a deeply reflecting and intelligent man, it is evident that the proceeding might have given rise to a serious quarrel between the two Governments.

Looking to the strict rights of the case, the Porte is justified in seizing and taking possession of the whole country of Yemen. For in former times that country was actually in the possession of and under the Government of the Porte. Is, then, the right of the Porte lost on account of its neglect in more recent times? If the Porte were now to demand the restitution of Aden it would be justified in so doing. For the English did not conquer Aden with the sword; but bought it with money from some Arab Sheikhs. It was in this fashion that the English obtained possession of India and of the Island of the Sea of Oman, which was under subjection to the Sublime Porte. Only at that period the Porte was so much embarrassed with numerous other affairs.

Apparently it is owing to certain difficulties it anticipates with reference to Aden that the English Government dreads the conquest of Yemen, and especially the approach of the Ottoman forces to Aden. And this is the conclusion we arrived at on receiving the first news of the recent occurrences. The perusal of a letter from Aden, published in the London newspapers, confirms our view of the matter. Thus it is stated in the letter we refer to, that "The Ottoman troops have come into the Lahej territory, and if the English had left the Sheikhs of Lahej without assistance, the Turks would have arrived at Aden. But the English functionaries have prevented the Ottoman troops from meddling with the tribes of Lahej. Two Turkish Government steamers with 2,000 men have arrived. It is said that they are about to proceed to Hodeida."

Besides the above, it is stated in another letter that, "The thing we feared has come to pass:" 1,000 Turkish troops have threatened the Ameer of Lahej and intended to conquer and take possession of the country. But assistance being demanded from the Governor of Aden, 500 English troops have put a stop to this aggression.

No. 130.

Mr. Grant Duff to Lord Tenterden.—(*Received December 23.*)

India Office, December 23, 1873.

My Lord,

WITH reference to your letter of 18th instant, I am directed by the Duke of Argyll to state, for the information of Earl Granville, that no intelligence, beyond that communicated in the inclosure to my letter of 9th instant, has been received at this Office respecting the surrender to the British Government of the brother of the Sultan of Lahej. I am to add that the Political Resident at Aden has, at the request of his Grace, forwarded further explanation respecting the proceedings which have taken place relative to this matter. Copy of the telegraphic correspondence is annexed.

I am, &c.
(Signed) M. E. GRANT DUFF.

Inclosure 1 in No. 130.

The Duke of Argyll to Brigadier-General Schneider.

India Office, December 20, 1873.

(Telegraphic.)

TURKISH Ambassador hears that the brother of Lahej Sultan has been attacked and taken prisoner by English troops.

Telegraph immediately particulars of surrender announced in your telegram, 7th.

Inclosure 2 in No. 130.

Brigadier-General Schneider to the Duke of Argyll.

Aden, December 21, 1873.

(Telegraphic.)

ABDOOLLAH, brother of Lahej Sultan, was not attacked by English troops. I directed him to wait on me at twelve o'clock on 6th, and explained his misdeeds to him, and the trouble he had caused by rebellion against Sultan, and calling Turkish troops to his aid, to surrender himself unconditionally to Resident with his forts before four o'clock of same day, or I should be obliged to have resort to force. Abdoolah accepted Resident's terms, and surrendered at once as required. He was sent same day to Aden, with his son, and brother, Abdool Kureem. On the night Turkish troops left, Abdoollah's fort was invested without permission by British troops. I immediately sent orders from Aden to withdraw troops, and went to Lahej next day.

No. 131.

Mr. Grant Duff to Lord Tenterden.—(Received December 24.)

India Office, December 23, 1873.

My Lord,

WITH reference to your letters of 5th, 6th, and 11th December, in the latter of which you ask to be informed what answer should, in the Duke of Argyll's opinion, be returned to the request of the Turkish Government, that the British force which has been despatched to Lahej from Aden may be withdrawn, I am directed to state, for the information of Earl Granville, that his Grace cannot admit the right of the Porte to make any such request as that above indicated, since the relations of the British Government with the tribes round Aden are independent of Turkey, whom we do not admit to have any *locus standi* in that region.

I am at the same to inclose a copy of the papers relating to this subject. From the last-mentioned document it will be seen that the British force has returned to Aden.

I have, &c.

(Signed) M. E. GRANT DUFF.

Inclosure 1 in No. 131.

Brigadier-General Schneider to the Duke of Argyll.

Aden, November 24, 1873.

My Lord Duke,

I DO myself the honour to forward copy of my despatch of to-day's date (with accompaniment) to the address of the Government of Bombay.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. W. SCHNEIDER.

Inclosure 2 in No. 131.

Brigadier-General Schneider to Mr. Goante.

Aden, November 24, 1873.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to report that, on the 15th November, Izzat Mustafa Bey arrived at Lahej from Sana with a letter from the Governor-General of Yemen to the Resident. The purport of it was, that the bearer had been appointed Mamoor, or Agent, with authority to effect a settlement of the misunderstanding existing between the Sultan and his brother Abdoollah, and the Resident was asked to assist in the matter.

2. As I was not on the spot, I directed my Assistant, Captain Hunter, to invite Izzat Mustafa Bey to his quarters, and to inform him that the presence of Turkish troops in the Lahej territory was entirely opposed to the orders of the Ottoman Porte and the assurances given by it to the British Government, which awaited their withdrawal from Abdoollah's house, as well as from the Howshebee country. He was also to be reminded that Abdoollah was domiciled in Lahej territory, and was a subject of the Sultan, who did not wish for Turkish interference in his affairs.

3. A summary of the interview between Captain Hunter and Izzat Mustafa was given in my telegram dated 18th November, of which the following is a copy:—

"Turkish troops not withdrawn from Lahej and Howshebee country. Izzat Effendi Pasha with other Turkish officials arrived at Lahej on 16th with letter from Governor of Yemen, asking Resident to assist in making peace between Sultan and his brother Abdoollah. Pasha informed that British Government awaits withdrawal Turkish troops from Lahej and Howshebee country, agreeably to orders and assurances given by Ottoman Porte. That Sultan does not desire Turkish interference in settlement of affairs between himself and Abdoollah, and that unconditional submission of latter to Sultan is required. Pasha urges that Abdoollah is a Turkish subject, and therefore Turkish troops came to protect him against the Sultan. The absurdity of this position was pointed out to Pasha, who states he will report to Governor. Resident sees nothing but discreditable subterfuge and evasion in conduct of Turkish authorities, and trusts there is a limit to forbearance of British Government. Pasha admits orders have been received not to interfere with Lahej. Says no orders have been received as regards Howshebee and other Chiefs in Treaty relation with Government, which must be false."

4. Izzat Mustafa wrote a letter after this interview, and expressed a desire to call on the Resident at Aden; but, as I was going to Lahej, I signified I would take advantage of that opportunity of receiving him.

5. He accordingly was brought to the British camp on the 21st November, and, after the usual formalities and friendly inquiries, I requested him to state why he had come to Lahej. He replied that the Governor-General's letter contained the necessary information, and that the object of his mission was to bring about a reconciliation between the Sultan and Abdoollah, with the assistance of the Resident. The interview lasted about an hour, during which period I made him fully understand the following points:—

(*a.*) That the Turkish Government had pledged itself to non-interference with the Sultan of Lahej, and all other tribes with which the British Government has Treaty or other engagements.

(*b.*) That the British Government had been more than once assured by the Ottoman Porte that orders had been issued to the Governor-General of Yemen to withdraw Turkish troops from all such places.

(*c.*) That, in the face of these assurances, the British Government could not allow Turkish interference in the settlement of affairs between the Sultan and his brother Abdoollah, who was his subject; that British troops were at Lahej to support the Sultan and that he had been instructed by the Resident to hold no communication either with his brother or with the Turkish officers in his country.

(*d.*) That the Resident would not even discuss the question of Abdoollah's submission to the Sultan, as such procedure would be admitting the right of the Turkish Government to interfere in the matter.

(*e.*) That when the reasons assigned by Ahmed Ayoob Pasha and his subordinates for entering Lahej territory became publicly known, it would exhibit the Governor-General's ignorance of the first principles of international law, under which a man born and domiciled in a country is a subject of that country and amenable to its laws, and that loyalty and obedience to the Ruling Power is the first duty of such subjects.

(*f.*) That the late Moosheer Ahmed Moukhtar Pasha has been removed from Yemen for disobedience of the orders he had received from the Ottoman Porte, and that the present Governor-General, Ahmed Ayoob Pasha, had left Constantinople with full instructions to abstain from all interference with the tribes around Aden.

(*g.*) That the existing state of affairs pointed to the dilemma that, either Rashid Pasha, the Foreign Minister at Constantinople, had acted in bad faith towards the British Government, and that his assurances were not to be relied on, or that Ahmed Ayoob Pasha was disobeying the orders he had received. The Resident observed that the first contingency could not be believed or suspected.

(*h.*) And finally, that Ahmed Ayoob Pasha was acting in an unfriendly manner towards the British Government by persistence in endeavours to disturb a condition of things that had existed for many years, and long before the Turkish Government undertook the conquest of Yemen.

6. Izzat Mustafa Bey, received all that I explained with perfect courtesy and temper, and remarked that the Turkish troops had only entered Abdoollah's house to protect him against the Sultan of Lahej, as the former had made profession of obedience to the Ottoman Government, and that he would report all that had been said to the Governor-General of Yemen. He added they were soldiers simply obeying orders, and that they could not withdraw from Lahej without instructions, and that probably they were on their way to Lahej, as he had left Sana some fifteen or eighteen days ago.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

This observation was made on my reading to the Mamoor two passages from documents I had brought out with me, in which it was mentioned by Sir H. Elliot that in September last Rasehid Pasha had sent out orders by telegraph to the Governor of Yemen to withdraw at once all Turkish troops from countries around Aden with whose Chiefs the British Government had engagements, and where Rasehid Pasha had stated to the Ambassador that orders had been given to remove such troops from the Howshebee district, their having been sent there being referred to as a regretable accident.

7. At the termination of the interview I mentioned to Izzat Mustafa Bey that the Governor-General of Yemen had not accredited him either by name and rank; but that, remembering the distance he had travelled, and the intimate alliance that existed between the British Government and the Ottoman Porte, the Resident had waived the objections he might have raised and had acceded to his request. The Mamoor expressed his obligations at having been received with consideration and respect in the British camp. I may add he was conducted there by Captain Hunter with an escort of the Aden troops. Captain Hunter, on the other hand, was saluted by the Turkish guard in the enclosure of Abdoollah's fortified house where he went to meet the Mamoor.

8. I informed Izzat Mustafa Bey that I would reply to Ahmed Ayoob Pasha's letter, and I annex copy of what was written, which was transmitted through the Mamoor.

9. Copy of this letter will be forwarded to the Secretary of State for India.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. W. SCHNEIDER.

Inclosure 3 in No. 131.

Brigadier-General Schneider to Ahmed Ayoob Pasha.

(Translation.) *Lahej, November* 21, 1873.

(After compliments.)

WE have to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's letter, delivered to us through your Mamoor, in which you ask us to assist in removing the separation that exists between Sultan Fadhl-bin-Mohsin and his brother Abdoolla.

As we were paying a visit to Lahej we took the opportunity of granting an interview to your Mamoor.

We have fully explained to him that the presence of Turkish troops at Lahej is opposed to the positive assurances given by the Ottoman Porte to the British Government, as well as to the admissions made by yourself and your predecessor, Ahmed Mooktar Pasha. We have pointed out to him the absurdity of regarding Abdoollah as a Turkish subject, and of the plea that on that account Turkish troops have been sent to Lahej to protect Abdoollah against his brother, the former being in rebellion against his authority.

We have distinctly informed your Mamoor that the British Government will not allow Turkish interference between the Sultan and his brother Abdoollah in effecting a settlement of the present condition of things at Lahej.

We pointed out to him that telegraphic orders had been sent to you in September last to withdraw at once any troops located in the country of those chiefs with whom the British Government has treaty or other engagements, and informed him that subsequent orders were sent to you by the same means.

Your Mamoor admitted that orders had been received regarding non-interference with Lahej; but asserted you had not received any instructions with respect to the withdrawal of troops in the Howshebee district.

We doubt not you have been again instructed by your Government to withdraw troops from Lahej and the Howshebee district, and the British Government awaits the fulfilment of the assurances that have been given it by the Ottoman Porte.

We felt some hesitation in granting an interview to your Mamoor, Izzat Mustafa Bey, as you did not accredit him by name, rank, &c.; but, according to the dictates of friendship, we waived objections that might have been raised, and treated him with due respect, as belonging to our close allies, the Turks.

We also read to him a portion of Rasehid Pasha's letter to the address of the great English Ambassador at Constantinople, Sir Henry Elliot, in which he referred to the occupation of the Howshebee district as a regretable accident, while stating that orders had been given to withdraw from the country. And salutation.

(Signed) J. W. SCHNEIDER.

Inclosure 4 in No. 131.

Brigadier-General Schneider to the Duke of Argyll.

(Telegraphic.) *Aden, December* 13, 1873.

FIELD force arrived this morning at Zaida, frontier of Lahej. The Howshebee Sultan evacuated Ulamut the day Emissary surrendered, and fled to hills.

Resident expects he well make his submission in a day or two.

Inclosure 5 in No. 131.

Brigadier-General Schneider to the Duke of Argyll.

(Telegraphic.) *Aden, December* 20, 1873.

FIELD force returned Aden. The Howshebee Sultan on highland with family while troops were at Zaida, afraid to come in to make submission, though encouraged to do so, for pardon. Aden troops visited Raka, capital of Howshebee, and found it deserted. Sheikhs and inhabitants reassured, and told to return without fear. Aden troops will remain in interior for some time. Heavy punishment has overtaken Howshebee Sultan. Lahej ( ) holds Zaida to Ulamut.

No. 132.

Sir H. Elliot to Earl Granville.—(*Received December* 26.)

(No. 155.) *Pera, December* 11, 1873.

My Lord,

THE telegraphic instruction to the Governor-General of the Yemen, of which the inclosed is a translation, was communicated to me by the Porte before accounts had been received of the withdrawal of the Turkish troops.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

Inclosure in No. 132.

Rasehid Pasha to the Governor-General of the Yemen.

(Télégraphique.) *Le 26 Novembre*, 1873.

(Traduction.)

LE Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique nous a fait savoir d'une manière toute particulière qu'il vient d'apprendre que le Gouvernement Ottoman fait marcher des troupes sur neuf localités situées dans le Djezmt ul Aup, et nommées Ledjah, Acrébé, Havaship, Fazli, Amir, Lahuhi, Bekai, Oulaki, et Alivi, et il demande que la Sublime Porte renonce à cette intention, attendu que le Gouvernement Anglais a des Conventions par rapport à certaines matières avec les Sheiks des susdites localités. La Sublime Porte ayant répondu à cette communication qu'elle n'avait point l'intention d'envoyer des troupes et de s'emparer des localités en question, elle s'est empressée de vous faire savoir par un télégramme du 25 Ramazan, 1289, que si en effet il y a des troupes envoyées du côté du Havaship ou bien vers une autre direction de la province de Ledjah, ainsi qu'on le prétend, il était nécessaire de la rappeler et de vous en faire part.

Cependant l'Ambassade Britannique nous fait encore savoir cette fois-ci que les troupes n'ont pas été encore rappelées de la susdite localité. Or, vu l'importance attachée à cette affaire de la part du Gouvernement Anglais et attendu que cela pourrait donner lieu à une foule de complications entre la Sublime Porte et la Grande Bretagne, il devient évident que nous ne saurions permettre un pareil état de choses.

En outre l'Ambassade Anglaise nous fait savoir par télégraphe qu'il est d'une importance majeure que les assurances données au Gouvernement Anglais soient parfaites et catégoriques, et que nous fassions tout notre possible pour les mettre en exécution.

C'est pourquoi il est nécessaire, selon nos communications antérieures, s'il y a des troupes dans les dites localités qui n'ont pas été encore retirées, de les rappeler immédiatement, et que si, comme il est allégué, il y a le projet de quelque mouvement dans la direction des localités susmentionnées, de ne point le faire avant de recevoir la permission

spéciale de la Sublime Porte; et nous vous intimons dès à présent que toute action contraire à ces instructions entraînera la responsabilité de votre Excellence.

No. 133.

Sir H. Elliot to Earl Granville.—(Received December 26.)

(No. 161. Confidential.) *Constantinople, December 15, 1873.*

My Lord,

I HAVE before intimated to your Lordship that I considered the occupation of Howshebee and Lahej by the Turkish troops as attributable to the Minister of War, and not to any deliberate bad faith on the part of the Porte, in carrying out the engagements taken towards Her Majesty's Government some months ago.

There can no longer be any doubt that this was the true state of the case, and the Seraskier is now exerting himself to turn the withdrawal of the troops to account and to effect the fall of the Grand Vizier and Raschid Pasha by discrediting them in the eyes of the Sultan, and of their colleagues.

At a Cabinet Council a few days ago the Minister of War made use of very violent language on the subject, saying that he considered the proceedings of the British troops in taking the Howshebee Sultan's brother prisoner to Aden, and blowing up his fortress, as an act of hostility towards Turkey, and an encroachment upon the Ottoman possessions.

He spoke of the miserable weakness that had been throughout shown by the Porte in allowing the rights of their Sovereign to be trodden under foot instead of upholding them, as they ought to have done.

The Seraskier, as I am informed, repeated to the Sultan the next day what he had said in the Council, and as his influence is great, the position of the Grand Vizier and Raschid Pasha is not without danger.

When I saw Mehemet Raschid Pasha yesterday, he told me he expected to see the Sultan to-day, when he hoped to convince His Majesty not only that by withdrawing the troops he had avoided a most serious complication with Her Majesty's Government, but that the military commanders, in occupying posts over which the Porte had no claim had caused all the misunderstanding and justified Her Majesty's Government in insisting on their recall.

It is difficult to foretell whether the Grand Vizier or the Seraskier, who is supported by the Minister of Marine, is likely to prove the stronger, but it seems hardly possible that they should both be able to continue in the same Cabinet.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

No. 134.

Sir H. Elliot to Earl Granville.—(Received December 26.)

(No. 162.) *Constantinople, December 16, 1873.*

My Lord,

RASCHID PASHA asked me yesterday what I knew of the brother of the Howshebee Sultan having been taken as a prisoner to Aden.

I said I knew nothing beyond the fact of his having been taken there pending the decision of Her Majesty's Government. Having surrendered to the Commander of the British troops who had gone to the support of the Sultan against whom he had rebelled, he must either have been handed over to his brother or taken to Aden, which latter course was the one that had been adopted.

Raschid Pasha was then asked whether Her Majesty's Government would not be disposed to hand him over to the Ottoman authorities upon the understanding that he should not remain in that part of the country.

I replied that it was impossible for me to say what Her Majesty's Government might be inclined to do with reference to him, but I thought it unlikely they would recognize his title to Ottoman protection which he merely invoked to help him in his rebellion against his brother.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

No. 135.

Earl Granville to Sir H. Elliot.

(No. 284.) *Foreign Office, December 30, 1873.*

Sir,

I HAVE received your Excellency's despatch No. 444 of the 7th instant, reporting a conversation which you had had with the Turkish Ministers for War and for Foreign Affairs on the subject of the proceedings of the Turkish authorities in the neighbourhood of Aden, and I have to express to your Excellency my approval of the language used by you on this occasion.

I am, &c.

(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 136.

Lord Tenterden to Mr. Merivale.

Foreign Office, December 30, 1873.

Sir,

WITH reference to previous correspondence on the proceedings of the Turkish authorities in Lahej and the Howshebee country, I am directed by Earl Granville to transmit to you to be laid before the Secretary of State for India in Council, a copy of a despatch from Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople, reporting a conversation which he had had with the Turkish Ministers for War and for Foreign Affairs on the subject.*

Sir H. Elliott's language on this occasion has been approved.

I am, &c.

(Signed) TENTERDEN.

No. 137.

Lord Tenterden to Mr. Merivale.

Foreign Office, December 31, 1873.

Sir,

I AM directed by Earl Granville to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 23rd instant, relative to the question of the withdrawal of the British force which has been dispatched from Aden to Lahej.

Lord Granville observes that there is some obscurity in the telegram from the Resident at Aden of the 20th instant, which is inclosed in that letter. It commences with an announcement that the "field force has returned to Aden," but further on it is stated that "Aden troops visited Ruha, capital of Howshebee;" and again, that "Aden troops will remain in interior for some time."

Lord Granville would be glad to be informed whether he is correct in supposing that British troops are still stationed in some portion of the territories of the tribes in the interior, and also what is the nature of the "heavy punishment" which it is stated in the same telegram, has overtaken the Howshebee Sultan; whether such punishment has been inflicted by British troops, or in what other manner.

Lord Granville would also be glad to know whether any decision has been arrived at as regards the treatment of the two brothers and the nephew of the Sultan of Lahej, who according to the last accounts had been sent as State prisoners to Aden. A verbal application has recently been made on their behalf by the Turkish Ambassador at this Court, who has suggested that they might be allowed to be sent to Constantinople; a course which would get them out of the way without too seriously compromising the dignity of the Turkish Government, which was more or less bound to intercede to preserve them harmless.

Lord Granville would be glad to learn if such an expedient would have the Duke of Argyll's concurrence, provided always that proper guarantees could be obtained that these men should not be allowed to return to the neighbourhood of Lahej.

I am, &c.

(Signed) TENTERDEN.

* No. 128.

No. 138.

Sir H. Elliot to Earl Granville.—(Received January 1.)

Pera, January 1, 1874.

(Telegraphic.)

THE Sultan grants me an audience on Saturday. Can I assure His Majesty that troops are withdrawn from Lahej? I am informed confidentially that the Russian Ambassador told the Sultan yesterday that the troops were retained for a further expedition.

No. 139.

Earl Granville to Sir H. Elliot.

Foreign Office, January 2, 1874, 5 P.M.

(Telegraphic.)

NO accurate information has as yet been received with respect the withdrawal of British troops to Aden. But Resident has been instructed by telegraph to report.

No. 140.

Lord Tenterden to Mr. Merivale.

Foreign Office, January 2, 1874.

Sir,

WITH reference to my letter of the 31st ultimo, requesting explanations as to the withdrawal of the British troops from Lahej, I am directed by Earl Granville to transmit to you a copy of a telegraphic despatch which has been received from Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople, inquiring whether he may state to the Sultan at an audience which he is to have of His Majesty to-morrow, that the British troops have been withdrawn.*

I am to request that you will ask the Secretary of State for India in Council to inform Lord Granville what answer should be returned to Sir H. Elliott on this subject.

I am, &c.

Signed) TENTERDEN.

No. 141.

Sir H. Elliot to Earl Granville.—(Received January 5.)

Constantinople, January 4, 1874.

(Telegraphic.)

I HAD yesterday a private audience to take leave of the Sultan, who expressed himself in the most friendly terms towards Her Majesty and Her Majesty's Government.

He entered at length into the question of Lahej showing no disposition to complain of the proceedings of Great Britain.

The secure approaches to holy places was, he said, an essential point for him; but, beyond those limits, he blamed the profitless expeditions that had been made without his authority.

He hoped to be able gradually to recall the army.

No. 141*.

Sir H. Elliot to Earl Granville.—(Received January 5.)

Pera, December 25, 1873.

(No. 470.)

My Lord,

THE Grand Vizier has given the Sultan a complete explanation of the whole of the occurrences with reference to the withdrawal of the Turkish troops from Howshebee and Lahej, and is extremely pleased with the way in which His Majesty expressed himself in regard to it.

He severely blamed the proceedings of the Governor-General of the Yemen, and entirely approved of the conduct of the Grand Vizier.

* No. 137.

His Highness states that having reason to suspect that General Ignatiew, who will have an audience of His Majesty before going to St. Petersburgh, would take the opportunity of speaking to the Sultan on this subject, he had thought it his duty to put His Majesty on his guard against the insinuations which he may probably throw out.

The Grand Vizier's feeling against his Excellency is very strong at this moment, from the conviction that he has much to do in encouraging the hostility shown to himself and the Minister for Foreign Affairs by the Minister of War, who would certainly not be permitted long to retain his post if some influence in his favour were not exerted at the palace.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

No. 142.

Earl Granville to Musurus Pasha.

Foreign Office, January 5, 1874.

M. l'Ambassadeur,

I HAVE the honour to inform your Excellency that, since your interview of the 17th ultimo, I have been in communication with Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India respecting the steps taken by the Aden troops against Abdoollah, brother of the Sultan of Lahej; and I have now the honour to state to your Excellency that no attack whatever was made by British troops on Abdoollah, but that, in answer to the demand of the British Resident at Aden, he surrendered himself and his forts into the hands of the British. Abdoollah was thereupon sent to Aden, and the English troops were at once withdrawn.

I have communicated to the India Office the suggestion made to me by your Excellency, that Abdoollah should be given up to the Turkish authorities to be sent to Constantinople, but am not prepared to give the consent of Her Majesty's Government to the proposal.

I am, &c.

(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 143.

Mr. Merivale to Lord Tenterden.—(Received January 6.)

India Office, January 5, 1874.

My Lord,

WITH reference to your letter of the 30th ultimo, with inclosure from Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople, relative to the time taken in the transmission of telegraphic orders from Constantinople to the Turkish authorities in the Yemen, I am directed by the Duke of Argyll to transmit, for Earl Granville's information, a Memorandum on the subject by Major Bateman-Champain, R.E., in charge of the Indo-European Telegraph Department, which may probably be of use.

I am, &c.

(Signed) HERMAN MERIVALE.

Inclosure in No. 143.

Memorandum by Major Bateman-Champain, R.E., dated January 1, 1874.

I PRESUME that the head-quarters of the Governor of Yemen are at Sana, and also that any instructions issued by the Porte to the military authorities in that country would necessarily be sent through the Governor.

Aden is the only telegraph station available for communication with Southern Arabia, and, as Sir Henry Elliot is doubtless aware, messages can be transmitted with the greatest rapidity between it and Constantinople or any city in Europe. The delay to which attention is drawn arises, of course, from the difficulty of communication between Aden and the interior, and has nothing to do with any telegraph in existence.

A message from the Porte to the Governor of Yemen would probably be handed by the Telegraph Company's clerk at Aden to the Turkish Consular Agent, and forwarded by means of an Arab camel-rider or runner to Sana, a distance of about 200 miles.

It is clear, I think, that much time may be lost by such an arrangement, and under no circumstances can such despatches reach their destination very quickly.

The only person who could materially shorten the delays in the transmission from Aden to the interior would be the British Resident; and should Her Majesty's Government think it desirable to assist the Porte in this matter, I venture to suggest that General Schneider be instructed by telegraph to take whatever means he thinks most advisable to forward with the utmost despatch to their destination all messages received from the Porte through Her Britannic Majesty's Embassy.

General Schneider has, I believe, steamers always available; and, in case of real emergency, it might happen that the quickest road to Sana would be by sea to Hodeida, about 250 miles, and thence by land about 120 miles; this road being most likely far more practicable than the direct one from Aden to Sana.

The sea transit ought not to occupy more than thirty hours, and the rest of the journey the same. An urgent despatch worth the cost of a special steamer should, therefore, not take more than from sixty to seventy hours between Constantinople and the seat of Government in Yemen.

No. 144.

Sir H. Elliot to Earl Granville.—(Received January 6.)

Constantinople, January 6, 1874.

(Telegraphic.)

A REPORT has reached the Turkish Minister of War from Aden that the brothers of the Howshebee Sultan had been shot.

I have said that I thought it very improbable, but that I would ascertain the truth.

No. 145.

Viscount Enfield to Mr. Merivale.

Foreign Office, January 6, 1874.

Sir,

I AM directed by Earl Granville to transmit to you, for the information of the Duke of Argyll, the inclosed copy of a telegram received in cypher from Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople stating that the Porte had received intelligence from Aden that the brothers of the Howshebee Sultan had been shot;* and I am to request that you will move his Grace to cause immediate inquiries to be made as to the accuracy of this rumour.

I am, &c.

(Signed) ENFIELD.

No. 146.

Mr. Merivale to Lord Tenterden.—(Received January 9.)

India Office, January 9, 1873.

My Lord,

WITH reference to your letter of 6th instant, I am directed by the Duke of Argyll to forward, for the information of Earl Granville, copy of telegraphic correspondence, from which it will be seen that there is no truth in the rumour which had reached the ears of the Turkish Minister of War at Constantinople, to the effect that the brothers of the Howshebee Sultan have been shot.

I am, &c.

(Signed) HERMAN MERIVALE.

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* No. 144.

Inclosure 1 in No. 146.

The Duke of Argyll to Brigadier-General Schneider.

India Office, January 7, 1874.

(Telegraphic.)

ELLIOT telegraphs from Constantinople that Turkish Government have heard that brothers of Howshebee Sultan have been shot. Can you explain?

Inclosure 2 in No. 146.

Brigadier-General Schneider to the Duke of Argyll.

Aden, January 8, 1874.

(Telegraphic.)

NO truth in report that brothers of Howshebee Sultan or any other relatives have been shot.

Resident has given aman* to Sultan and his Sheikhs.

No. 147.

Earl Granville to Sir H. Elliot.

Foreign Office, January 9, 1874.

(Telegraphic.)

THE following telegram received from Resident at Aden:—

"No truth in report that brothers of Howshebee Sultan or any other relatives have been shot. Resident has given aman* to Sultan and his Sheikhs."

No. 148.

Mr. Merivale to Lord Tenterden.—(Received January 12.)

India Office, January 12, 1874.

My Lord,

WITH reference to your letters of the 17th (two), 30th and 31st ultimo, and the 2nd instant (two), I am directed by the Duke of Argyll to state, that the issue by the Porte of a Firman, granting to the Lahej and Howshebee Chiefs an autonomy, and assimilating them to Egypt and Tunis, would imply a right of sovereignty on the part of the Sultan, which Her Majesty's Government are not prepared to admit.

I am further to add, that there is no information on the records of this Office respecting the withdrawal of British troops from the territories in the neighbourhood of Aden, beyond that already communicated to the Foreign Office. It is probable, however, that further intelligence will shortly arrive from Aden representing the exact state of affairs.

With reference to the suggestion of the Turkish Government that the brothers, &c., of the Sultan of Lahej, who are at present State prisoners at Aden, may be sent to Constantinople, guarantees being given that they will not be allowed to return to the neighbourhood of Lahej, I am to state, that such a concession to the wishes of the Porte would manifestly be an admission that the persons above-mentioned were entitled to the protection of the Sultan of Turkey. As Her Majesty's Government have persistently contended that such is not the case, his Grace is of opinion that it would be inexpedient to take any such step as that indicated above.

I take this opportunity of forwarding, for Earl Granville's information, further copies of correspondence on the subject of the general affairs of Aden.

I am, &c.

(Signed) HERMAN MERIVALE.

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* An "aman" is an indemnity.

Inclosure 1 in No. 148.

Brigadier-General Schneider to the Duke of Argyll.

Aden, December 3, 1873.

My Lord Duke,

I DO myself the honour to transmit a copy of my despatch of to-day's date, to the address of the Government of Bombay.

I have, &c.
(For Brigadier-General Schneider),
(Signed) E. V. STACE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 148.

Brigadier-General Schneider to Mr. Gonne.

Aden, December 3, 1873.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to subjoin copy of a telegram forwarded yesterday to the Viceroy and Governor-General, as well as to the Secretary of State for India:—

"Turks not withdrawn from Lahej or Shuka. The Howshebee, supported by presence of Turkish Agent and troops at latter place, is cultivating land two miles south of Zaida. Resident reported Governor-General. Yemen had declared Howshebee district annexed to Taizz. Turks are, therefore, responsible for encroachment on territory ceded to Lahej by Howshebee in 1868. Situation damaging to our prestige owing to presence of Turkish troops. If Governor-General persists in disregarding orders of Ottoman Porte, there is only one solution of difficulty, namely, recourse to force. Some Turkish regiments at Taizz, with light artillery carried by camels. Rumoured troops will come towards Lahej. Reinforcements should be held in readiness."

2. For full information respecting the cession of the Zaida district by Ali-bin-Mana, the Howshebee, to the Sultan of Lahej, I beg to refer to my letter to the Secretary of State for India of the 1st of February, 1873, copy of which was forwarded to Government with my despatch of the 3rd idem.

3. It is clear that the Turks desire to wrest from the Sultan the portion of the Zaida district, of which he became possessed in 1868, nearly three years before they landed at Konpodu and Hodeida to undertake the conquest of Yemen, and the Howshebee has been directed to make the encroachment referred to in the above telegram, under the pretence of being a Turkish subject, who has sustained a wrong from the Sultan of Lahej.

4. It is to be regretted that the Sultan of Lahej was permitted to extend his territory in 1868, as the transfer of the Zaida district to his principality has been a bone of contention between himself and Ali-bin-Mana since that time, and has partly led to the present complications. The mistake that was committed does not, however, justify the conduct of the Turkish Agent and the Howshebee.

5. There will be no difficulty in settling matters on the withdrawal or ejection of the Turkish troops from Lahej and the Howshebee country.

6. Copy of this letter has been sent to the Secretary of State for India.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. W. SCHNEIDER.

Inclosure 3 in No. 148.

Brigadier-General Schneider to the Duke of Argyll.

Aden, December 8, 1873.

My Lord Duke,

I HAVE the honour to forward a copy of my despatch, dated Lahej, the 7th instant, to the address of the Government of Bombay.

I have, &c.
(For Brigadier-General Schneider),
(Signed) E. V. STACE.

Inclosure 4 in No. 148.

Brigadier-General Schneider to Mr. Gonne.

Lahej, December 7, 1873.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to report that the Turkish troops evacuated Lahej and the Howshebee country on the 4th and 6th December respectively, I arrived at the former place on the evening of the 5th idem, and informed Abdoolla bin Mahsin that I wished to see him the following day. He was told that the Resident would guarantee his safe return to his fort.

2. Abdoolla bin Mahsin wrote in reply that he would gladly visit the Resident to state his grievances and he asked to be escorted by Captain Hunter.

3. He was brought to my quarters at 12 o'clock on the 6th December by the above officer, accompanied by his brother Abdool Kurreem and his son Fudhil.

4. Abdoollah then proceeded to state his grounds for complaint, which were in effect that he was the eldest brother of the family, that he had not fair division of the Lahej territory and the Government subsidy, and that he ought to exercise power as well as the Sultan.

5. I pointed out to him that there could only be one ruler in a country and that the present Sultan had been elected to reign by the suffrages of the Sheikhs and Sayeeds of the principality, and that he, his son and brother, were subjects of the Sultan, and had committed a great crime in rebelling against his authority and seeking the intervention of the Turks, instead of applying to the Resident for redress if he, and those with him, considered they had been wronged.

6. Abdoollah replied to this that he had not addressed the Resident as he had never been noticed or recognized by that functionary, and he referred, with some bitterness, to a slight he said he had received from a former Resident who had refused his hand when he extended it for the usual friendly salutations. I reminded him that I was not responsible for this act, and that I had sent him a warning against continuing to act in opposition to the Sultan's wishes by holding communications with the Turks, and Ali-bin-Mana the Howshebee, who was his brother's enemy.

7. Abdoollah replied that he had felt himself in such a strait that he accepted the assistance of any one against the Sultan, and he begged the clemency of Government for his conduct.

8. I listened patiently to everything Abdoollah had to say, and I then told him that his making his submission to the Turks, and calling their troops to his aid to invade Lahej territory after he had given hostages for future good conduct, had caused grave complications, and had given much trouble to the British Government, and that his acts could not be passed over, and I informed him the Resident required him, with his brother Abdool Kurreem and his son, to make their unconditional submission by 4 o'clock that afternoon, and also to make over the occupations of his fortified houses at the same hour to British troops.

9. Abdoollah was taken by surprise at these conditions, but I stated that they could not be abated one hair, and that, if not complied with by the time named, British troops would invest and capture his forts by force of arms. He demurred for a while, protesting that he, Abdool Kurreem, and his son, could not forsake their families, and that they would rather die under the ruins of their houses than submit to such humiliating terms.

10. I remarked to Abdoollah that the British Government did not war with women and children, and that he might rely on their families being treated in a manner befitting their position, and that this duty would be undertaken by Fudhil bin Ali, a nephew of the Sultan, with the permision of the latter.

11. After a little consultation among themselves, Abdoollah, on behalf of himself, his brother, and son, accepted unconditionally the terms offered to him, and he said he was was prepared to go to Aden as a prisoner, with his son and Abdool Kurreem, and to make over his forts at once to British troops.

12. I accordingly ordered a detachment of troops, British and native, to parade for the purpose, under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Edwards, and they were marched to the forts before 3 o'clock, accompanied by my Assistant, Captain Hunter, and the brother Abdoollah, Abdool Kurreem, and Fudhil bin Abdalla. The former ordered his garrison to vacate, which was done with great demonstrations of delight by the Arabs, and the troops took possession.

The families left at dusk, the aged mother of Abdoollah being carried on a dhoolie, and shortly afterwards Abdoollah and his son and Abdool Kurreem were taken to Aden by

Captain Hunter with an escort of the Aden troop, where they will await the orders of Government for their disposal.

14. I inspected the forts in the evening, and am satisfied they could only have been reduced by powerful artillery and mortars, owing to the great thickness of the walls and to their being built of white sun-burnt bricks. This morning the forts were entirely dismantled, and openings have been made in the walls, so that they are quite untenable, and I await the arrival of the Executive Engineer to further destroy a place which has been a standing menace against the Sultan of Lahej for the last ten years, and which enabled Abdoollah and other members of the family residing there to rebel against his authority with comparative impunity.

15. I anticipate the best results from the retribution that has overtaken Abdoollah, Abdool Kureem, and Fudhil bin Abdoollah, and the people around recognize the influence and strength of the British Government, which has, apparently without an effort, not only forced Turkish troops to withdraw, with great loss of prestige, from positions they desired to occupy, but has also been able to inflict in a few hours a terrible punishment on the Chief who has hitherto defied the authority of the ruler of the country.

16. Copy of this letter will be forwarded to the Secretary of State for India.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. W. SCHNEIDER.

Inclosure 5 in No. 148.

Brigadier-General Schneider to the Duke of Argyll.

Aden, December 10, 1873.

My Lord,

I DO myself the honour to forward a copy of my despatch of to-day's date, to the address of the Government of Bombay.

I have, &c.
(For Brigadier-General Schneider),
(Signed) E. V. STACE.

Inclosure 6 in No. 148.

Brigadier-General Schneider to Mr. Gonne.

Lahej, December 10, 1873.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to report that, on the news of the surrender of Abdoollah and Abdool Kureem reaching Ali-bin-Mana, the Howshebee Sultan, he immediately evacuated the fortalice of Sluka, taking with him as much grain as he could carry. He has partially destroyed his fort, and set fire to all huts around it. He then sent a message to the Sultan of Lahej, telling him of what he had done. I have no doubt he intended to signify that he preferred blowing up his own building rather than allow his enemy the satisfaction of doing so.

2. Ali-bin-Mana is thoroughly scared, and must, I think, feel the mistake he has committed, under great temptation, in having sought assistance from the Turks to recover the district that was taken from him by the Sultan of Lahej in the year 1868. I have written a letter to the Howshebee, calling on him to come to the Resident's camp, and I trust I may shortly have the satisfaction of informing Government that some settlement has been arrived at, which will give a promise of lasting peace between Ali-bin-Mana and the Sultan. I am unable to enter into any details until I ascertain whether the Howshebee will comply with my wish, or accept the terms I may find myself able to offer him on entering his territory.

3. The fort lately occupied by his brothers Abdoollah and Abdool Kureem has been completely destroyed. Large portions were mined and blown up, and only the northern face remains.

4. The force will break ground to-morrow morning, and move by easy marches to Zaida. The presence of a well-ordered body of British troops passing through the country, and paying for all supplies it requires, will be most beneficial; and I am confident our withdrawal will be regretted.

5. I have thought it necessary that the force should be augmented by 200 men, British and native, so as to allow of a strong depôt being established at Al-Hota, with commissariat and other stores. The force at its departure was numerically weak. The additional expense will not be great, as no carriage need be kept up for the detachments that do not move forward. I expect the troops will return to Aden before Christmas.

6. Copy of this letter will be forwarded to the Secretary of State for India.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. W. SCHNEIDER.

Inclosure 7 in No. 148.

Brigadier-General Schneider to the Duke of Argyll.

Aden, February 1, 1873.

My Lord Duke,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of a communication in the Secret Department, dated India Office, London, 17th January, 1873, forwarding copies of letters from the Foreign Office, with inclosures, in reply to the representations addressed by your Grace to that Department of Her Majesty's Government, on the suggestion of his Excellency the Viceroy of India.

2. As regards that portion of copy of a telegram from Sir H. Elliott, dated Constantinople, 13th January, 1873, in which it is stated the Governor of the province of Yemen reports the Chief of Lahej as "having attacked and plundered a neighbouring chieftain who recognized Sultan's authority," I think it right to inform your Grace, without delay, that the occurrences referred to took place so far back as the year 1868, that is to say, nearly three years before the troops of the Turkish Government landed at Confidah and Hodeida for the conquest of Yemen.

3. The facts of the case may be briefly summed up as follows:—

The Howshebee Sheikh dammed up a stream which served to irrigate the country belonging to the Sultan of Lahej. After mutual recriminations, the Howshebee entered the Lahej territory in May 1868, whereupon Sultan Fudhl proceeded to eject him by force of arms, and an engagement took place, resulting in the loss to the Howshebee of fifteen killed and thirteen wounded. On the Abdalee side, six were killed and ten wounded.

At this stage the Resident interfered, and after the Howshebee had tried, without success, to induce the neighbouring Chiefs to assist him, he came to Lahej to ask pardon of Sultan Fudhl; and eventually a Treaty was concluded in which the Howshebee consented, among other stipulations, to cede to the Sultan of Lahej the district of Zaida, to allow the rivulet of Ghail to flow in its former course.

The above circumstances were duly reported the Government of Bombay by the Resident in his letters, dated respectively the 31st May and 30th July, 1868, and commented on by the Government of India in its Secretary's letter of the 9th September following.

Towards the end of 1868 the Howshebee, having collected a force of about 800 men, again meditated an attack on the Lahej territory, in view of recovering the district of Zaida. The Resident, hearing of this, at once wrote to the Sheikh, that a persistence in his hostile attitude against the Sultan of Lahej would have the effect of causing a cessation of friendly intercourse between the British Government and himself. The Howshebee came to Aden in November, and tendered his submission.

On the 15th of December, 1868, the Howshebee and the Sultan of Lajeh visited Aden and placed their cases before the Resident, who advised the latter to restore Zaida to the Howshebee, as, whether or not he had a right to the district, it would remain a chronic source of discontent to that Chief and his people; and would always form a pretext for plundering and disturbances on the roads. The Lahej Sultan would not, however, accede to the Resident's proposals.

In October 1869, the Howshebee committed so many outrages on Kafilas and peaceful people coming to Aden, that the Resident stopped his stipend. The Sultan of Lahej was at the same time informed that the proximate cause of this misconduct was his tenure of the district of Zaida; and that he was bound to take some action in the matter. After a personal interview with the Sultan of Lahej, the Resident was able to report, in January 1870, that the differences of the two Chiefs were in a fair way of adjustment. This was effected through the mediation of Sheikh Sayid bin Sayf, the Alowee Chief, who induced the Sultan of Lahej to restore a small portion of the Zaida district to the Howshebee. The Sultan refused to vacate the fortalice which commands the Ghail rivulet, and he has since remained in undisturbed possession of it.

4. Since the reconciliation between the Sultan of Lahej and the Howshebee, which took place in 1870, they have remained on friendly terms outwardly, but the conduct of

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

the latter, in having proceeded to Taizz in the hope of obtaining assistance from the Turks, as reported to the Bombay Government in my last communication on the subject, copy of which was forwarded to your Grace under mine of the 11th January, 1873, and thereby affording the Moosheer Ahmed Mukhtar Pasha a pretext for aggression against a State in alliance with the British Government, shows that the humiliation the Howshebee considers himself to have undergone at the hands of his more powerful neighbour the Sultan of Lahej still rankles in his mind and is as keenly felt as ever.

5. The information furnished by the Governor of the Province of Yemen has obviously led the Sublime Porte to suppose that an attack was made by the Chief of Lahej against a chieftain after he had recognized the so-called authority of the Sultan in these parts. The report I have now placed before your Grace will indicate upon what grounds this information was given by the Mushir.

6. A copy of this communication will be sent to the Government of Bombay.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. W. SCHNEIDER.

No. 149.

Earl Granville to Musurus Pasha.

Foreign Office, January 19, 1874.

M. l'Ambassadeur,

IN continuation of the note which I had the honour to address to your Excellency on the 5th instant, I have the honour to inform you that I have been in communication with Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India on the subject of the suggestion made by your Excellency that the relatives of the Sultan of Lahej, who have surrendered themselves to the British at Aden, should be sent to Constantinople.

After full consideration of the matter, Her Majesty's Government have come to the conclusion that the proposed arrangement under the circumstances would not be satisfactory, and cannot therefore be entertained.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

APPENDIX.

Correspondence respecting the Proceedings of the Turks at Shuhur and Maculla: 1869-71.

No. 1.

Mr. Melvill to Mr. Hammond.—(Received September 20.)

India Office, September 17, 1869.

Sir,

I AM directed by the Duke of Argyll to forward, for the information of Lord Clarendon, copy of a letter recently received from the Government of India, respecting the proceedings of the Turkish Authorities at Shuhur and Maculla.

With reference to the 2nd paragraph of the above-mentioned letter, I am to state that his Grace concurs in the opinion therein expressed, that "some representation might be made through Her Majesty's Foreign Office to the Turkish Authorities, with a view to restraining subjects of the Porte from exercising undue influence or pressure on this Chief, or from threatening his independence."

I am, &c.
(Signed) JAMES MELVILL.

Inclosure 1 in No. 1.

The Governor-General of India in Council to the Duke of Argyll.

Simla, August 5, 1869.

My Lord Duke,

WITH reference to the despatch addressed by the Bombay Government to your predecessor, under date the 11th April, 1868, regarding the proceedings of the Turkish authorities at Maculla and Shuhur, on the Hadramaut coast, we have the honour to forward a copy of a correspondence with the Government of Bombay, from which your Grace will perceive that the Chief of Maculla is very desirous of placing himself under British protection.

2. It is impossible that we should accede to such a request, but we would suggest that some representation might be made through Her Majesty's Foreign Office to the Turkish authorities, with a view to restraining subjects of the Porte from exercising undue influence or pressure on this Chief, or from threatening his independence.

We have, &c.
(Signed) MAYO.
W. R. MANSFIELD.
H. M. DURAND.
H. S. MAINE.
JOHN STRACHEY.
B. H. ELLIS.

Inclosure 2 in No. 1.

Mr. Gonne to Mr. Aitchison.

Bombay Castle, July 6, 1869.

REFERRING to my letter dated the 31st March, 1868, regarding the affairs of Maculla and Shuhur, I am directed to forward, for submission to his Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General of India in Council, the accompanying copy of a report from the Assistant Resident in charge, Aden, dated the 15th ultimo.

Inclosure 3 in No. 1.

Captain G. R. Goodfellow to Mr. Gonne.

Aden, June 15, 1869.

I HAVE the honour to report, for the information of his Excellency the Governor in Council, that I have had an interview with the Hakeeb Salah bin Mahomed of Maculla, at present here on a visit. This Chief has brought forward his old request, and informs me that, feeling himself unsafe and insecure from the annoyance of frequent and more than suspicious visits of Turkish vessels, as well as in an unsettled state from the constant dread of hostilities occurring between himself and the Kaitee, the present ruler of Shuhur, as also from the raids of the Katheree and others, he very much desires, if it be possible, to place his town and himself under British protection, and to enjoy the privilege of living under the British flag; that he is willing to make any concessions and to abide by whatever the Government may require of him, if he can but obtain a settled state of safety and security for his town and himself by the aid of the British Government. He hinted that to give up his town entirely to the English would be far preferable to the present state in which he lived; and that if we could not assist him in any way, he feared he should be compelled to enter into some negotiations with the French. He informed me that he was aware that his was not an individual case, but that nearly all the Arabs and Sheikhs and Chiefs in these parts found themselves nearly similarly situated, and that they were all inclining to a state of bankruptcy and consequent helplessness, and were eager for the support of a foreign Power, and he begged me earnestly for the friendship that existed between himself and the Government that I would submit his request for their consideration. I informed him that as he wished it, I would do so, but that I could hold out no hopes to him of his request being granted, the question being one which involved more responsibility than the Government could be expected to burden itself with; that I was, however, certain that Government would be most happy to assist him with their influence to prevent any advances being made by the Turkish authorities towards possessing themselves of his town, or of causing him any misapprehensions on that score; that steps had already been taken to insure this result. As regards his local enemies it was much to be regretted that they could not all live in peace, content with what each one possessed; that, as far as lay in the power of the authorities here, endeavours would be made to bring this about, if possible; but what was most needed to insure it was, that he should himself, by a little energy and decision on his part, render himself capable of warding off any attacks that might be made on his town; that I was acquainted with the present discontented and unhappy state of the various Chiefs in the vicinity, and the craving they had for foreign aid, and hoped that they would be brought to see that this state was only consequent on the constant system of quarrel and disorder which existed; and that seeing this, they would at once determine on active measures to remedy the evil by turning their attention exclusively to the preservation of peace and order, and the encouragement of agriculture and trade.

During my interview, the Hakeeb referred to the matter of the search made by the boats of Her Majesty's steamer "Daphne" whilst at Maculla, and stated that he had had several complaints made to him on the subject and hoped that something would be done to prevent the action taken by Her Majesty's ships engaged in suppression of the Slave Trade causing loss on private individuals engaged in legitimate traffic, and that the present system was shaking the faith of the Arabs very much in the well known just and honest policy of the English Government—a circumstance much to be regretted. This matter has already been reported to Government. I again mention it here as I consider it my duty to bring it prominently forward that Government may know the opinions expressed by the natives. The Hakeeb will leave this in a few days. I propose

presenting him with suitable presents in return for those he has given, and trust the proceedings above reported will be approved by his Excellency in Council.

Inclosure 4 in No. 1.

Mr. Seton-Karr to Mr. Gonne.

Simla, August 5, 1869.

Sir,

I AM directed by his Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, dated the 6th July, 1869, representing that the Chief of Maculla, feeling insecure and being apprehensive of hostilities, is very desirous of placing himself under British protection.

2. In reply, I am directed to state that it would be impossible for the British Government to accede to the request of this Chief, or to undertake responsibilities of such an undefined character, and that the intimation given to the Chief by the Assistant Resident is approved.

3. The papers will, however, be forwarded to the Secretary of State, in order that, if his Grace should think fit, some representation may be made, through Her Majesty's Foreign Office, to the Turkish authorities, so as to restrain them from exercising undue influence or pressure on the Chief, or from threatening his independence.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. S. SETON-KARR.

No. 2.

Mr. Hammond to Mr. Melvill.

Foreign Office, September 21, 1869.

Sir,

I AM directed by the Earl of Clarendon to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 17th instant, inclosing a letter received from the Government of India respecting the proceedings of the Turkish authorities at Shuhur and Maculla; and I am to state to you, in reply, for the information of Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India, that Lord Clarendon has instructed Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople to bring this matter before the Turkish authorities, with a view to their taking steps to restrain their subjects from exercising undue influence or pressure on the Chief of Maculla, or from threatening his independence.

I am, &c.

(Signed) E. HAMMOND.

No. 3.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Elliot.

(No. 308.) *Foreign Office, September* 21, 1869.

Sir,

I TRANSMIT to your Excellency herewith the accompanying copy of a letter from the India Office, inclosing a letter received from the Government of India respecting the proceedings of the Turkish authorities at Shuhur and Maculla;* and I have to instruct your Excellency to bring this matter before the Turkish authorities, with a view to their taking steps to restrain their subjects from exercising undue influence or pressure on the Chief of Maculla, or from threatening his independence.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

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* No 1.

No. 4.

Mr. Elliot to the Earl of Clarendon.—(*Received November* 2.)

(No. 469.) *Constantinople, October* 25, 1869.

My Lord,

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch No. 308 of the 21st ultimo, relative to the proceedings of the Turkish authorities at Shuhur and Maculla, I have the honour to transmit herewith the copy of a note which I have addressed to Aali Pasha on the subject

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

Inclosure 1 in No. 4.

Mr. Elliot to Aali Pasha.

Constantinople, October 7, 1869.

THE Assistant-Resident at Aden has reported to the Governor-General of India that the Hakeeb Salah bin Mahomed of Maculla states that he feels alarmed and feels insecure in consequence of the annoyance of frequent visits from Turkish vessels, believing his independence to be threatened by these proceedings and by the attitude of the present Ruler of Shuhur.

Her Majesty's Government hope that the Porte will take steps to restrain their authorities and subjects from exercising undue influence or pressure on the Chief of Maculla, or from threatening his independence.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

No. 5.

Mr. Merivale to Mr. Hammond.—(*Received August* 23.)

India Office, August 21, 1871.

Sir,

WITH reference to previous correspondence, terminating with your letter of 3rd November, 1869, I am directed by the Duke of Argyll to forward, for the information of Earl Granville, copy of a letter from the Government of India, dated 14th July, 1871, bringing to notice a rumoured intention on the part of the Turkish Authorities to attack Shuhur and Maculla. On the occasion of a similar report in 1869 the matter was brought, by Earl Clarendon's directions, to the notice of the Ottoman Government, with a view of their restraining their officers from exercising undue influence in the manner indicated. I am to state that that the Duke of Argyll would be glad to be informed of the nature of the reply given by the Turkish Minister to the representations made at that time by Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople; and his Grace is also anxious to receive from Earl Granville an expression of his Lordship's opinion on the point alluded to in the second paragraph of the letter of the Government of India.

I am, &c.

(Signed) HERMAN MERIVALE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 5.

The Governor-General of India in Council to the Duke of Argyll.

Simla, July 14, 1871.

My Lord Duke,

WE have the honour to forward, for the information of Her Majesty's Government, copy of papers having reference to a report that it is the intention of the Sultan of Turkey to attack Shuhur and Maculla, on the eastern coast of Arabia.

2. Your Grace will observe that we have instructed the Bombay Government to make no reply to the queries of their informant, Nawaz Jung Bahadoor, of Shuhur, as to the intention of the British Government with regard to this matter. But we shall be glad to be informed whether there is any reason for thinking it to be the design of the Sultan of Turkey to make any portion of the expedition, which has recently been operating

against the Asserees, in the Red Sea, available for further service on the Arabian coast, and, if so, what action Her Majesty's Government proposed taking thereon.

3. We desire at the same time to recall to your Grace's recollection our previous despatches transmitting papers regarding the apprehensions which had already been entertained as to the designs of the Turkish Government in these quarters. From your Grace's despatch dated 1st October, followed up by your Political Secretary's letter dated 19th November, 1869, we learned that the matter had been brought to the notice of the Ottoman Government. We would now beg to be informed of the nature of any reply which Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople may have received.

We have, &c.

Signed) MAYO.
NAPIER OF MAGDALA.
JOHN STRACHEY.
R. TEMPLE.
J. F. STEPHEN.
B. H. ELLIS.
H. W. NORMAN.

Inclosure 2 in No. 5.

Mr. Wedderburn to Mr. Aitchison.

Bombay Castle, June 15, 1871.

REFERRING to the correspondence, copy of which was forwarded to this Government under Mr. Girdlestone's endorsement dated the 30th August, 1870, I am directed to inclose, for submission to the Government of India, the accompanying copy of a letter dated Hyderabad, Deccan, 12th April last, from Nuwuz Jung Bahadoor, of Shuhur (in the Hadramaut), stating that he has received information of the intention of the Turkish Governmant to attack that place and Maculla, and inquiring what steps will be adopted by the British Government to secure the Hadramaut from molestation.

2. I am to state that the Political Resident, Aden, has been instructed to report on Nuwaz Jung's representation.

Inclosure 3 in No. 5.

Sultan Nuwaz Jung Bahadoor to the Governor of Bombay.

Hyderabad (Deccan), April 12, 1871.

I HOPE this will find your Excellency and family in the enjoyment of good health.

I learn that Syud Fazal bin Alool, inhabitant of Marra, who was expelled about fifteen or sixteen years ago from Kungara, a place about ten miles from Calicut, on the Malabar Coast, under the displeasure of Government, has been announcing to the people at Mecca that His Majesty the Sultan of Turkey has promised to place at his disposal two steam-frigates and 3,000 soldiers to attack Shuhur and Maculla, in Hadramaut, on the south-eastern coast of Arabia, and to take possession of those places, and that he (Syud Fazal) would set out with the expedition after the ceremony of Hajj.

I therefore take the liberty to address this letter to your Excellency. Your Excellency is well aware that Shuhur is our native country, and that I and my brothers are now the rulers of it. The British Government do not permit any Power to carry on war in their seas, and I am yet to learn how Turkish war-vessels will be permitted to proceed to the coast of Hadramaut and attack Shuhur aad Maculla. The matter has already been brought before Government by me, and I am informed that Turkey would be remonstrated with against interfering with the affairs of Hadramaut.

I therefore most respectfully and earnestly pray that, if my information be true, I may be informed thereof, and of what steps will be adopted by the British Government to prevent the Hadramaut coast from being molested.

Inclosure 4 in No. 5.

Mr. Wynne to Mr. Aitchison.

Simla, July 11, 1871.

IN acknowledging the receipt of your letter, dared the 15th June, 1871, I am directed to state that it is the wish of his Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General in Council that no reply should be given to the inquiry of Nuwaz Jung Bahadoor, of Shuhur, as to the steps which will be adopted by the British Government to secure the Hadramaut against molestation by the Turks should such be attempted.

No. 6.

Earl Granville to Sir H. Elliot.

(No. 162.) *Foreign Office, August* 29, 1871.

Sir,

I TRANSMIT for your Excellency's information the accompanying copy of a letter from the India Office, calling attention to the rumoured intention of the Turkish authorities, as set forth in the inclosed communication from the Government of India, of attacking Shuhur and Maculla.* As there is no trace in this Office of any answer having been returned to the letter which you addressed to Aali Pasha on the same subject in October 1869, I have to instruct you to call the Porte's attention to the rumour referred to by the Government of India, and endeavour to obtain from them some satisfactory reply in regard to it.

I am, &c.

(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 7.

Mr. Hammond to Mr. Merivale.

Foreign Office, August 29, 1871.

Sir,

IN reply to your letter of the 21st instant, I am directed by Earl Granville to request you will acquaint the Duke of Argyll that there is no trace in this Office of any reply having been returned to the communication which was addressed by Sir Henry Elliot to Aali Pasha on the 7th of October, 1869, respecting the proceedings of the Turkish authorities at Shuhur. An inquiry will, however, be addressed to Sir Henry Elliot on the subject, with instructions to again call the attention of the Turkish Government to the rumours referred to in the letter which you inclose from the Government of India.

I am, &c.

(Signed) E. HAMMOND.

No. 8.

Sir H. Elliot to Earl Granville.—(*Received November* 1.)

(No. 366.) *Therapia, October* 15, 1871.

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that, upon receiving your despatch No. 162 of the 29th of August, I addressed a fresh communication to the Porte calling for a reply to the Memorandum by which, in October 1869, I had called attention to the alleged proceedings of the Turkish authorities in regard to Shuhur and Maculla.

No notice had been taken of the first communication, but I shall endeavour to obtain an early reply.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

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* No. 5.

No. 9.

Mr. Hammond to Mr. Merivale.

Sir, *Foreign Office, November* 1, 1871.

WITH reference to Lord Enfield's letter of the 29th of August last, I am directed by Earl Granville to transmit to you, for the information of the Duke of Argyll, the accompanying copy of a despatch which has been received from Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople, in reply to instructions addressed to his Excellency respecting the proceedings of the Turkish authorities with regard to Shuhur and Maculla.*

I am, &c.

(Signed) E. HAMMOND.

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* No. 8.